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ENGLISH HEDGEROWS.

PARLIAMENT being up, home politics somewhat of a bore, foreign ditto very speculative and uncertain, and not being yet greatly smitten with the prevalent "scarlet fever," either alarmist or congratulatory (in regard to foreign invasion on the one hand and the autumn manoeuvres on the other), with

which some of our contemporaries are afflicted, we respectfully invite our readers to take a trip with us into the country, and study English hedgerows and their ways. It does not much matter in which direction we go; any of the leading railway lines will do; but perhaps one of the most recently-opened routes—that by the Midland, say—will be

preferable, as there hedgerow eccentricities are most markedly developed.

And very marked indeed are the said eccentricities. Look around in any direction, and they make themselves conspicuous. Hedgerows you shall see by the dozen, that begin at no spot in particular, and end at much the same place.



STAMPEDE OF CAVALRY HORSES AT ALDERSHOT CAMP.



We do not refer to those hedgerows that meander along by the sides of country roads and by-lanes. These are curious enough in their way, and withal very pleasant to look upon, though the modern practice of cropping them close down has done much to spoil their wild, tangled picturesqueness. Moreover, they have a duty to perform—to separate the dusty highway from the cultivated field or grassy meadow; and they do it, notwithstanding occasional gaps and much dilapidation. It is what we may call the internal system of hedgerows—those which separate, or are supposed to separate, one inclosure from another—which interests us most. Many which, as we have said, have no particular starting point and no special ending place, wind along in a curiously serpentine fashion for a space, and then either cease abruptly or dwindle out of existence—having apparently no cause for beginning, being, or ending. Others are suddenly cut off in the midst of seeming vigour, if not of usefulness, by the railway—at one place by a cutting, over the edge of which they peep furtively, as if curious to learn what is going on below; at another by an embankment, up whose side they make an effort to scramble, as though to protest against this discourteous solution of their continuity. Others again, after starting fairly and making a vigorous show of a determination to mark a boundary that shall nowise be passed, close their career ere half their task is accomplished, as if they—like not a few "humans"—had undertaken more than they could perform, had over-estimated their resources, and prematurely exhausted their energies. Every now and then, too, hedgerows may be seen inclosing odd triangular or semicircular patches of ground, or patches of no shape whatever, in which by no mortal ingenuity could plough or harrow be effectively manoeuvred, inasmuch as they afford scope for neither straight furrow nor practicable curve—in which it is as impossible to turn as to go on.

What imaginable purpose, then, do these hedgerows serve? And the characteristics we have endeavoured to describe are those of the great majority of English hedgerows, as they now exist, especially in the vicinity of London. They fence nothing, for in their "looped and windowed raggedness" they offer no bar to the passage of stragglers, quadruped or biped. As a rule, they are as tattered and torn as the doublet of Master Jock Jawbox—as full of gaps as the walls of Paris at the close of the second siege; and even at their best estate they can easily be circumvented by making a detour, and turning their flank, which is sure to be exposed at some point or other. Field-dividing hedgerows may have had a use once; but that time has passed away, and purpose of strict utility the great majority of them now serve none. "Of strict utility," we say advisedly, for all hedgerows, even the scrubbiest and most ragged of them all, promote an important and pleasing, if not profitable, object: they add amazingly to the picturesque beauty of our English landscapes—they refresh the eye of the wayfarer, by road or by rail; like the hills and the valleys, they break the hard, stiff outline that bounds one's range of vision, thereby greatly delighting the artist soul; and the more eccentric they be in their curvings, and turnings, and windings, their seemingly purposeless beginnings and equally purposeless endings, the more effectually do they subserve these ends. English hedgerows, then, must exist—must have been created, or, at least, preserved—chiefly with a view to artistic results, as adjuncts, let us say, to the great work of art-education and taste-forming which is supposed to have its head-quarters at South Kensington, and to have Cole, C.B., and his colleagues as chief ministers.

No one will deny—at least, we do not—that in this respect English hedgerows have a plausible, if not sufficient, reason of existence. But it may well be questioned whether the benefits they thus confer be not purchased at a somewhat too expensive rate—possibly, in this respect also, resembling the benefits conferred by the South Kensington art-educators. Indeed, from a utilitarian point of view, there can be no question about the matter. Let us calculate a little. Hedgerows measure, on an average, probably not less than two yards across; for about two yards more on each side no crop, or none worth speaking of, can be made to grow; they form a harbour for rabbits, hares, and other vermin (or game), which often destroy the crops for many additional yards on each side along the whole course of the hedge; and as, longitudinally, the hedgerows of England must stretch over some millions of miles, the extent of land which, directly and indirectly, they render non-productive must be something enormous. Lord Derby said at Liverpool the other day that the soil of this country probably did not yield half the produce that ought to be got out of it, and among the causes of this non-productiveness hedgerows must count for a very considerable item. To say that their existence renders many thousands of acres of excellent land barren would be no exaggeration; and, considering how hard it has now become for poor men to live in this England of ours—how dear bread is, how almost unattainable is beef—one cannot help thinking that, much as our hedgerows add to the beauty and picturesqueness of our country, and greatly as they may aid in the development of artistic taste among the people, these advantages are dearly bought by the deprivation of "solid pudding" of which the same hedgerows are the cause.

Would we, therefore, have all the hedgerows grubbed up, and the land made one wide, unbroken, prairie-like expanse? By no means. We should be loth to utterly sacrifice the *duo* to the *utile*, the beautiful to the barely beneficial; but a vast deal might be done in furtherance of the one without totally destroying—yea, without materially impairing—the other. Were all *useless* hedgerows removed, enough would

remain for beauty and enough for shelter, while the food-producing portion of the soil would be enormously augmented. The work of hedge-grubbing is in progress in some quarters, but with marvellous deliberation; and we commend the duty of accelerating it to the attention of men who, like Lord Derby and the members of Chambers of Agriculture generally, take an interest in the reclamation of the waste places of our corner of the earth's surface, and so adding to the productiveness of the soil and the consequently increased comfort of its inhabitants.

STAMPEDES OF CAVALRY HORSES AT ALDERSHOT.

ON Tuesday, Aug. 29, the 1st Regiment of Life Guards, commanded by Colonel the Hon. Dudley De Ros, and consisting of three squadrons, arrived at Aldershot from Windsor, and at once proceeded to occupy the canvas quarters on Cove-common. The horses, about 300 in number, were picketed outside the encampment, according to the plan which has been recently introduced by the military authorities, and which is based upon the system usually practised in the Prussian army. On the following evening (Wednesday), about eight o'clock, little was heard in the stillness beyond the general hum of conversation, when two dogs made their appearance in the camp and began to quarrel. The larger animal fastened on the smaller and bit it severely, on which the latter set up a hideous yell and ran towards the horses. The sudden noise caused the horses of two officers to start from their pickets, and these were followed at once by six troop-horses. A sudden impulse seized the whole line, and nearly 300 broke loose at the same moment, running and snorting in all directions. An indescribable scene of confusion ensued, the whole locality for miles round being aroused by the flight and pursuit of the excited animals, some of which dragged the cords and pins, and all wearing their saddle-cloths. Large numbers of men from the various regiments at Aldershot were soon in chase, commanded by Captain Hozier and several other officers; and, as almost every open route had been taken by the fugitives, the whole locality was scorched within a circuit of at least a dozen miles. In the hurry of the moment the pursuers, comprising some hundreds both of cavalry and infantry, ran off in every variety of undress, the whole scene being of a grotesque and exciting description. About fifty horses galloped through the town of Farnham, of which fifteen were secured, the remainder running on towards Alton and Petersfield. At Willey, about two miles beyond Farnham, the troop dashed against the closed toll-gate and smashed it to pieces; while on the commons around Farnborough and Aldershot, in the opposite direction, many plunged against stakes or other obstructions, which penetrated their breasts or otherwise inflicted serious injury. Several horses dropped dead within an hour, some were drowned in the canal, and others were captured in a crippled state. The pursuers returned to their quarters about midnight, leaving a number of horses at large, and the search was resumed next morning at an early hour. The bark of the little cur above mentioned will prove an expensive matter to the country, since, in addition to the horses already dead or crippled, many others will have to be sold as unfit for service. The men of the 1st Life Guards complain that the materials supplied for their use in securing the horses on picket were not of a proper description; but probably the ease with which the animals broke from their pickets must be attributed in some measure to the sandy nature of the soil on Cove-common.

The horses belonging to two other regiments (the 2nd Life Guards and the 10th Hussars) have since made a similar stampede, though on a smaller scale and with less serious consequences. A board of officers is engaged in an inquiry into these occurrences, and into the best means of picketing horses.

In reference to those mishaps the special correspondent of the *Daily News* at Aldershot says:—

"Much has been written on the subject of the stampede of the horses of the 1st Life Guards, which is as discreditable to the spirit as to the practical knowledge and common-sense of those responsible for the character of such writing. Horses are like Christians in many respects: they are liable to sudden frenzied panics, such as that which will beset human beings on a sudden causeless cry of fire in a theatre; and, while as difficult to quiet when the fit is on them, are far more manageable unless when possessed with the demon of panic. Nothing tends more to keep horses 'sensible' than what may be called the moral support of the presence of men. It is surprising in a storm at sea what wonders are wrought on the troop-deck of a cavalry transport by the simple expedient of ordering the men to stand to their horses' heads. Strong stable guards, always peripatetic, reassure horses greatly; and greatly calculated to produce the same effect is the new arrangement of cavalry regimental camps, where the horse lines and the men's tents alternate. My own conviction is that we feed our cavalry horses too well and work them not half enough. No colonel likes to see ribs. I think the probability of a stampede on the part of the horses of the Life Guards would have been materially diminished if the ribs of the handsome blacks had been visible by reason of considerably more exercise and a little less corn. But the argument does not universally obtain, else why did the horses of the Bays stampede with a hundred and odd miles of line of march in them? This is a well-recognised certainty, that no fastening the ingenuity of man ever conceived will hold panic-stricken horses. But there is a principle in picketing as in everything else, if that itching for change, which is as opposite to reform as light to darkness, would but allow those in authority to recognise it. From the day he joins the regiment the troop-horse is used to being made fast by the collar-chain depending from the head-stall. In barracks he will mostly stand in his stall, even though at the tail of the collar-chain there is no horse-log. Until within the last dozen years so firm was the faith in the troop-horse's conviction that he was fastened securely when fastened by the head, that there were no such things used as heel shackles. The writer, in the last decade but one, was under canvas two summers on the Curragh of Kildare, with a heavy cavalry regiment, when the horses were simply fastened by their collar-chains to a long picket-rope braced across uprights about 3 ft. high, and without fetlock shackles of any kind. The horses had a continuous skinful of field-work, and there were no stampedes, although a few casualties from kicks. In the canvas stables in the north camp of Aldershot horses stand now practically picketed by the collar-chain, and without separation-bales or shackles; and that much closer than in the open air. But heel-ropes are unquestionable preventives of injuries from kicks, and no doubt help also to restrain from stampedes—that is, providing the heel-ropes are worth anything to signify. The Indian pattern of heel-rope was simply perfection in its simplicity. Fastened to a single peg, it split into a V shape, shackled both hind fetlocks with a leather girt lined with numnah cloth, and securely fastened with a thong; and, used in conjunction with the collar-chain fastened to a continuous picket-rope, constituted the securest possible fastening of horses in the field."

"To believe that a horse which has been fastened all his military life by the head will be held by a chain and shackle fastened to one of his fore feet is at once to do despite to the animal's sense of consuetude, and to disregard one of the first principles of mechanics. Add to this that the new shackle is ridiculously weak where the strongest strain falls, that its gutta-percha sheathing is so disposed as only partially to save chafing, and that it wholly fails in every respect in which it should be efficient, and the wonder is, especially after the experiences and exposures which have already made the name of the tinkering concern small in the nostrils of every man connected with the mounted services, that its use should have been persisted in so long."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Assembly having passed the bill on the position of the Chief of the Executive Power, France is once more formally constituted a Republic, with M. Thiers as President thereof. The President now communicates with the Assembly by means of messages instead of speeches, though he has the right to adopt the latter when he deems it necessary. M. Dufaure has been appointed Vice-President of the Council of Ministers. In consequence of the changes which the law of Aug. 31 introduced into the constitution of the executive power, the Ministers placed their resignations in the hands of the President of the Republic, who, after having accepted them, requested the Ministers to resume their offices. M. Larcy has also consented to retain his portfolio.

The Assembly adopted, on Tuesday, the bill sanctioning the contingent of the class of 1870 numbering 120,000 men. The bill permits those called of this class to procure substitutes. The Assembly, having resumed the debate upon the bill increasing the indirect taxes, after some discussion, rejected, by 381 votes against 169, an amendment moved by M. Duval, who proposed a tax of 10f. per hundred kilogrammes on the paper used for newspapers and other periodicals. The resolution agreed to by the Committee and the Government, that this tax should be 20f. per 100 kilogrammes, was agreed to. Only newspapers and publications not subject to the cation-money system will be exempt from this tax. The Minister of Finance brought in a bill to authorise the sale of the ground on which stood the Palace of the Ministry of Finance, which was burnt down during the insurrection. M. Claude's bill, which makes the whole nation bear the burden of the losses caused by the invasion, has been adopted by the Assembly, together with an amendment authorising a provisional distribution of 100,000,000f. The Assembly also agreed to the additional clause proposed by the Government, with the object of granting relief, to the extent of 6,000,000f., to those who suffered most by the military operation necessitated by the suppression of the Paris insurrection.

On Tuesday M. Thiers gave Marshal Bazaine an audience, lasting more than three quarters of an hour. Marshal Bazaine has given evidence before the Committee of Inquiry into the acts of the Government of Sept. 4, and a manuscript prepared by him and embodying his defence was read to the committee by his aide-de-camp. The Marshal avers that if he did not pursue the advantages gained by him on the 14th and 16th at Borny and Rézon, and on Aug. 31 at Noiseville, it was solely because of the almost complete lack of ammunition.

The town of Bourges is destined to become the military centre of France, and the question of creating a line of defence, the principal points of which will be Avallon, Changy, and Autun, is being discussed. A central arsenal will be established at Bourges, where very extensive fortifications will be constructed. It is stated that the military school from Metz will also be transferred to Bourges.

The negotiations for the evacuation of the four departments surrounding Paris are not proceeding so smoothly as might have been supposed. Difficulties connected with the mode of payment and the customs' concessions demanded by Germany have hitherto retarded the progress of the negotiations.

The Alsace, France, and Lorraine Society, formerly known as the League for the Deliverance of Alsace and Lorraine, informs its supporters that it continues to prosecute its philanthropic and fraternal labours. It contradicts the rumour that it had been dissolved, and says the Alsatians continue to emigrate en masse, a large number of workmen leaving their country every week with their wives and children, and taking up their residence in the large manufacturing towns of France.

Sept. 4, the anniversary of the establishment of the present French Republic, has passed off throughout France without any disturbances. Paris remained perfectly tranquil, and very few of the provincial towns made any sign.

M. Rouher has agreed to come forward in Corsica for the seat which has been renounced in his favour by M. Abbattucci.

The well-known Imperialist, M. Paul de Cassagnac, is a candidate for a seat in one of the French departmental councils. In the address he has published he declares that he still admires the Imperial system, which gave eighteen years of calmness, prosperity, and happiness to France. He eulogises the population of the rural districts, and declares that they form the real France, that works, and prays, and fights, and he exhorts them to arise and save the country.

The sentences of the third court-martial on the Communists were pronounced last Saturday night, when Ferré and Lullier were condemned to death; several others, including Assi, Billoray, and Paschal Groussot to confinement for life; two to hard labour for life, and two to transportation for life in a penal colony. Courbet gets six months' imprisonment and to pay a fine of 500f., and Clement three months' imprisonment; but Descamps and Parent are acquitted. At Marseilles the court-martial has condemned Intendant Brissay to death for usurpation of military powers.

A court-martial delivered judgment, on Tuesday, upon women accused of throwing petroleum while the fires raged in Paris. The women Retouffe, Sudens, Marchais, and Tierre are sentenced to death; Papavoine to transportation to a fortress; and Bocquin to ten years' solitary confinement.

M. Rolland de Villargues, a Judge of the Appeal Court of Paris, has had the misfortune to kill a man under circumstances yet to be explained, and is at this moment in prison on a charge of murder. All that has transpired is, that a servant lately discharged by the Judge came to his house, Rue Dumont d'Urville, in an angry mood, complaining that his character was not properly worded, and also making a claim for a balance of 200f. wages. The Judge, who was alone in the house with an aged female domestic, got frightened at what he considered the threatening attitude of the discharged servant, and, to get out of his way, took refuge in his study. Being followed there, he took down from a hook, in self-defence as it is alleged, a Catalan poniard, with which he inflicted a mortal wound upon his adversary. The man staggered down stairs to the porter's lodge, where he fell. He was taken to hospital, and died in a few hours. Judge Rolland de Villargues gave himself up, and is now in the Conciergerie.

A frightful accident occurred on the Northern of France Railway, at 10.30 p.m. on Sunday, at Seclin. The express from Paris ran into an ordinary train from Douai, which was being shunted in order to allow the express to pass. Three passenger carriages were crushed. A great number of passengers were scalded by the steam and water from the shattered engine of the express. There are at present ten persons killed and many seriously injured. The accident is attributed to the Douai train being forty-seven minutes behind time, and to the express being allowed to proceed notwithstanding.

ITALY.
The appointments of Signor de Vincenzi as Minister of Public Works, of Signor Ribotti as Minister of Marine, and Signor Gadda Prefect of Rome were officially announced on Wednesday. To the latter gentleman the final arrangements for the transfer of the Italian capital to Rome will be intrusted. It is stated by the *Riforma* that the Parliament will not assemble in Rome until the end of November or the commencement of December. The building in which the members are to meet requires so much alteration that it will be impossible, it seems, to get it ready by an earlier date.

An industrial exhibition was opened in Milan, on the 2nd, by the Prince of Carignan, three of the Italian Ministers, several deputies and senators, the municipal authorities, &c., being also present. The whole of Italy had been invited to send in contributions; but very few towns responded to the appeal made to them, and the exhibition is therefore essentially a local one.

SWITZERLAND.

A pamphlet has been issued by the Catholic Bishop of

Switzerland upon the dogma of Papal infallibility. The Bishops insist upon the validity of the decisions adopted by the Ecumenical Council, and upon the infallibility of the Pope as supreme head of the Church.

SPAIN.

King Amadeo has set out on a tour through the Peninsula under the most promising auspices. His progress to Valencia must have been most gratifying to him, for everywhere on the route the population turned out en masse, and greeted him with enthusiastic cheers. At Valencia itself the whole of the inhabitants were in the streets to receive him. Besides visiting a bull-fight (a national amusement in the Peninsula), his Majesty has inspected all the public establishments in Valencia, manifested considerable interest in the working-men's co-operative society, and even examined the gaols, where he set many prisoners free.

GERMANY.

The Emperor William, attended by Prince Bismarck and a numerous suite, arrived at Salzburg on Wednesday evening, and was received by the Emperor Francis Joseph, who was also surrounded by a numerous and brilliant diplomatic and military suite. The Emperor of Austria wore the uniform of his Prussian suite, and the Emperor of Germany that of the Austrian regiment, of which he is commander. The two Sovereigns proceeded to the hotel where the Emperor William will stay, and remained there together a quarter of an hour.

The New Prussian (Cross) Gazette of Tuesday evening says:—“We learn that the negotiators at Gastein avoided bringing into the discussion the regular Roman question—that, namely, of the re-establishment of the temporal power. This question is to continue to be regarded as an affair concerning Italy alone, and the Italian Government has not only not sought, but has, indeed, decisively declined any international settlement of the matter.”

Although the masons' strike in Berlin is at an end, other strikes are expected. The bookbinders, the leather-workers, the haberdashers, the file-makers, the box-makers, are all about to hold meetings with view to obtain increased wages. The carpenters have meetings every day, but the masters still refuse to yield. One result of the masons' strike is said to be that 1000 new dwellings are not yet completed which would have been ready by Oct. 1. House accommodation in Berlin meanwhile continues to be so inadequate to the wants of the population that if a stranger has no certain prospect of finding a dwelling, permission to remain in the city is to be refused him. On Oct. 1 1600 families will, it is calculated, be without homes.

ROUMANIA.

It is stated that, with reference to a diplomatic note from the Cabinet of Bucharest, the German Government has for the second time, in reply, reminded the Government of Prince Charles that Roumania, not being an independent Sovereign State, has no right to enter into direct diplomatic negotiations with foreign Powers. The German Government, moreover, communicated the contents of the despatch to the Cabinet of the Sultan.

TURKEY.

The death of the Grand Vizier is currently rumoured. Halim Pacha and General Ignatief have arrived in Constantinople.

According to advices which the *Nord* has received from St. Petersburg, the Turkish Government has sent a circular despatch to the European Cabinets, in which it requests the abolition of the foreign post-offices in the Ottoman Empire. In Turkey, as is well known, several great Powers have postal establishments of their own. There is a French post-office, a German post-office, an English post-office. The Porte is now of opinion that it can undertake the postal service itself, and hence the action it has taken in the matter.

THE UNITED STATES.

At a Cabinet meeting held on the 1st inst., at which General Grant was present, it was resolved to suppress the disorders in South Carolina.

The Government is awaiting the results of the British expedition to Corea before renewing the attack.

THE STOWMARKET EXPLOSION—The Coroner's inquisition at Stowmarket, touching the late fatal gun-cotton explosion, was brought to a conclusion on Wednesday. After deliberation extending over an hour and three-quarters, the jury returned the following verdict:—“That the explosion which produced the deaths was caused by some person or persons unknown adding acid to the gun-cotton subsequent to its passing all the tests required by the Government.” This appears to be *de facto* a verdict of “Wilful murder.”

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—The Registrar-General's return for the week ending Saturday last shows a continued decrease in the mortality from smallpox. The deaths from this loathsome disease, which in the week ending June 10 were 24, were last week only 78. The deaths from diarrhoea have decreased from 457 in the previous week to 353, and from English cholera from 28 to 20. The number of deaths from all causes fell from 1682 to 1485. The annual rates of mortality in the following places per 1000 of the population were: Dublin, 18; Wolverhampton and Bristol, 20; Portsmouth and Edinburgh, 21; London, 24; Hull, 23; Glasgow, 27; Bradford, 29; Norwich, 31; Birmingham, 33; Nottingham and Liverpool, 34; Sheffield, 35; Leeds, 37; Manchester, 43; Salford and Leicester, 44; Sunderland, 50; and Newcastle-on-Tyne, 51.

TERRIFIC BOILER EXPLOSION.—Last Saturday evening, about six o'clock, one of the boilers belonging to the West Mofra Colliery, near Burton-on-Trent, exploded with terrible violence. The boiler, which was a large one, was carried high up in the air, and fell in a field nearly 200 yards from its bed; the shock of falling broke it into several pieces and knocked it quite flat. Many of the workmen have been severely scalded, but the person most seriously injured is a man named Smith, who was working in a new shaft which is being sunk. The boiler knocked down the beams over this shaft, and some of the bricks fell down a distance of about 150 yards, one of them striking the poor fellow on the head and fracturing his skull. Had the accident occurred at the same time on any other night of the week the results would have been most disastrous, as the men leaving work would have been on the bank at the time.

ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE FOR INFANTS, HORNSBY-RISE.—Miss E. S. Soul, the hon. secretary of the ladies' committee, writes to us as follows:—“Will you permit me once more to invite attention to the above charity, which is much in want of funds at the present time. The committee are greatly obliged by the notices you have given from time to time of our interesting work, which have been so beneficial to our funds; and very grateful indeed are we for the munificent donation by our anonymous friend D. N. of £1000, contributed last month; but, having been obliged to borrow, the charity is still in debt to the extent of more than £8000. With a view of its removal in part, twenty-four ladies and gentlemen have agreed to subscribe 100 guineas each, to be paid in four annual instalments, upon the only condition that the number is made up to fifty, so that we still want twenty-six names to complete the list. With this sum of £5000 subscribed in this way, we have not a doubt of the remaining portion being soon contracted in larger or smaller sums; so that the committee may be enabled to increase the number of infants to the two hundred for which room is already provided, and in due time to the four hundred which the entire building when completed will receive. Any contributions sent to my father, Mr. Joseph Soul, the honorary secretary, 73, Cheapside, London, E.C., or to any of the branches of the London and County Bank, will be most gratefully received and acknowledged.”

THE INSPECTION OF WORKSHOPS.—The Workshops Regulation Act of 1867, in its recently amended form, will affect the Black Country more, perhaps, than any other district of equal extent. Hitherto no attempt has been made to enforce the provisions of the measure; but, now that this duty is transferred from local to central authority, the numerous workshops of the district will, like the factories, be subject to official inspection. What addition it is proposed to make to the present staff of inspectors we are not informed, but some idea of the extra labours which will be involved in this district alone may be afforded by the fact that over 2000 workshops will, at a moderate estimate, require inspection. Of this number more than one-third are little nail-smithies scattered throughout the East Worcestershire part of the district, where children of both sexes are set to work at a very early age. At Willenhall and in the immediate vicinity there are about 400 little workshops, in most of which children are employed, and where over five hours of labour are prevalent. At Wednesfield, about two miles off, another little colony of child-workers find employment in trap-making, key-filling, and other branches of hardware manufacture. The third part of little workshops is distributed among the various towns of the Tipton, Tipton, Darlaston, Wednesbury, Bilston, and West Bromwich districts, in large proportion, and some are also to be found in Wolverhampton and the rural villages lying between that town and Stafford. Lord Buxton's clause in the Act, by which brickfields are to be placed under local inspection, will have a most salutary effect in this district, the need for some such legislation having long been acknowledged.

THE AUTUMN CAMPAIGN.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE MANOEUVRES.

THE autumnal manoeuvres may be said to have begun, for on Monday a force of 13,000 men marched out, with all their camp equipage, to the Sandhurst hills and back, a distance, both ways, of from fourteen to eighteen miles. At Sandhurst they pitched their tents, cooked their victuals, and rested for an hour or two; the tents were then struck, and, with the remainder of the baggage, they started on the way home, covered by the troops from an imaginary attack made all along their front. This would have been an important field-day had none but regular troops taken part in it; but when we remember that, out of the 13,000 men engaged, no less than ten regiments, or between 7000 and 8000, were militia, many of whom had never carried a soldier's pack on their backs or pitched a tent in their lives, it becomes doubly interesting as the first real venture on the experiments which are the object of the manoeuvres, on the experiment which is the most vitally important of all their experiments—that of determining whether it be possible to work up at short notice material which is comparatively raw with that already thoroughly manufactured into soldiers. Of course, no one ever doubted that the flower of the British Army was capable of taking its tents eight or ten miles from a chosen camp in the heart of its own country and organisation, of pitching them, cooking its victuals, and marching safely home with its baggage, after having made a show of covering its retreat, the same evening. But what everyone, except the very sanguine, did considerably doubt was whether a less than half-trained militia could be made in a few days to do all this—not only to just scramble through it by the help of the regulars, but to take an active and intelligent part in it all; to make no great blunders, but, on the contrary, to distinguish themselves in many instances by a soldierly alacrity, and by a capacity for real hard work and a good-humoured submission to it in weather which broke from good to bad about the middle of the day, and towards evening, when the men had still miles to go and much to do when they had gone them, settled into a regular downpour of drenching rain.

The flying column which has done all this comprised all the militia in camp, batteries of horse and field artillery, cavalry, Guards, and infantry regiments, detachments of the control corps—in fact, it was a compact little army of defence, and only wanted a few crack companies of volunteers to make it complete. All the infantry carried their packs, and also (except those militia regiments who had no bottles) their water for drinking, though, had they known how much was coming down from the skies, they might, perhaps, have left these behind. The start of the militia regiments was left entirely to themselves, with the notification that the advanced guards were expected to be on the ground at 8.30 a.m. The whole force was divided into three columns, and arrived punctually by three routes. The right column was commanded by Major-General Maxwell, C.B.; the centre, by Major-General Lyons, C.B.; and the left, by Major-General Carey, C.B. Sir Hope Grant commanded in chief.

The country chosen for the encampment was that adjacent to the Sandhurst Staff College, which consists of ferny hills interspersed with furze, relieved by fir woods. The Staff took up its position on Saddle-back-hill, and on the slopes opposite and far away out of sight to right and left the camps were pitched, with their front towards the rising ground of the Windsor-ridge, behind which they were sheltered. Along and beyond the crest of this the outposts were posted. The camp was supposed to be in the face of an enemy, and the outpost duties were performed by six regiments of infantry and a proportion of cavalry. These men carried cooked dinners in their haversacks. The camps of the main force were pitched on sites pointed out by the Assistant Quartermaster-General. The militia pitched their tents cleverly considering their short experience, and there is now no doubt that they will be able to manage their camps very well when they take the field. While the dinners were being eaten the enemy had come much too near to be pleasant, and it was now high time to be off. After some flag-signalling between the Staff and the different camps the alarm was sounded, and the tents fell, not quite as though by magic, but still well together. Alderman Sir William Rose's men brought theirs down in an instant with a ringing cheer, as though glad to start for home. The pickets were now being driven back, the baggage was packed and moved off to the rear, and the troops were formed into two lines to cover its retreat. The first line occupied the crest of the Windsor-ridge and the second the Saddle-back ridge; the outposts were gradually drawn in; there was some artillery practice as the phantom enemy debouched from the woods over against the Windsor-ridge; and, as the quarters grew closer, there was some file-firing at short range.

The rain was now pouring down, and the troops had yet the worst half of the day's work before them. No wonder that one of the militia regiments marched off to form the second line to the tune of “We're all nodding.” Seven or eight miles out and back is no great performance, even with a knapsack and musket to carry; but the metropolitan corps, of which the militia contingent is chiefly composed, are not the best of marchers. There had been some stragglers, though not many, in the morning, and the road home, coupled with a thorough wetting, was not without its uncertainties. One militia captain, being asked if he thought he could get his men home, replied that he thought he could, but that, if he did, he was sure he should never get them out again. The regiments encamped at Boorley Bottom had a long day; they left home about five a.m., and if they got back and their tents up by midnight it is as much as they did. Prince Arthur got as wet as anybody; but he was saved the long walk by the chance of his being orderly officer of the day. Altogether, the Sandhurst expedition has been successful; untried troops have done, very fairly well, several necessary and not altogether easy things. Sir Hope Grant did not seem to be in the least encumbered with his new tools; he managed them easily, giving them just as much to do as he thought they could do, and no more. The retreat of the baggage was prettily covered; everything seemed to be done just in the nick of time.

The field telegraph had been laid down along the road, and sent messages from the Staff to the offices seven miles off. It is nothing but a wire cased in gutta-percha laid along the hedges and ditches and fields just as it may happen, and lifted out of the reach of carts on road-crossings by slender iron supports. A new field printing press has also come into use.

THE BALLOT MOVEMENT IN THE PROVINCES.—A special meeting of the Newark Reform Association has been occupied in discussing what course should be taken regarding the rejection of the Ballot Bill by the House of Lords. Mr. Earp, the ex-Mayor, occupied the chair, and remarked, in his opening address, that Lord Shaftesbury had unwittingly, but at the same time truthfully, defined the House of Lords when he described it as gilded chamber to be above the exigencies of politics. He noticed from the papers that the distinguished Earl was abusing the good people of Glasgow with certain topics to which, for the sake of his own credit and the interest of the country, he hoped he would direct his attention rather than to the difficulties of legislation. He thought the lateness of the Session as a reason for not dealing with the Ballot Bill was a very lame excuse for the noble Earl to make. Several other speakers followed, including Mr. Pinder, Mr. Linney, Mr. Harris, and Mr. Wood, all of whom bitterly complained of the conduct of the House of Lords. It was remarked that if a body of workmen were to say they would only work nine hours per day, they would, doubtless, be denounced as an idle, unthinking, and worthless set; but the House of Lords did not work more, on an average, than two hours per day, and they complained with all seriousness that they were overworked, and that the pleasures of shooting grouse were of far greater importance than considering whether her million of their fellow-countrymen should exercise the franchise in accordance with their political convictions. Mr. Pinder then proposed—“That this association greatly regrets the course taken by the House of Lords in rejecting the Ballot Bill, and that a committee be formed for the purpose of arranging for a public meeting to be held prior to the reassembling of Parliament, in order to pass resolutions in favour of a measure so essential to the free exercise of the elective franchise by the people.” Mr. Councillor Wood seconded the proposition, which was unanimously and enthusiastically carried. After other subjects had been discussed, the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

PRESERVATION OF EPPING FOREST.

An open-air meeting in support of the forest fund was to have been held on Monday evening in the midst of the high beeches near to the King's Oak, but the unpropitious nature of the weather prevented it, and it was decided by the committee to transfer the proceedings to the large room of the Robin Hood Inn, Loughton, instead. The committee reached that part of the forest about six o'clock, in a bus placarded with the words, “Save the forest!” and, the presence of many of the inhabitants of the village and excursionists from London and elsewhere having been procured, the Rev. G. W. Meggy, the treasurer of the fund, was voted to the chair. In the course of his address he said it was useless to speak of the desirability of having open places like Epping Forest secured for the recreation of the people. There were some utilitarians who looked upon the forest as waste land, and would rather see it placed in a state of cultivation than let it remain in its rugged beauty and grandeur. If they saw the thousands of men, women, and children who came there panting for pure air, he thought they would soon be convinced that to inclose such lovely and health-giving spots was not only unjust but dangerous to the well-being of the community. He should be extremely sorry if any portion of the 3000 acres still remaining uninclosed were to be any further interfered with, and immediate complaints ought to be made to the Verderers' Court if any more of the turf were removed from Wanstead Flats and other parts of the land. Mr. King moved the first resolution, as follows:—“That this meeting rejoices in the steps that have already been taken to save Epping Forest, and is of opinion that it is necessary that the rights of the people should be maintained by the action of the ancient and constitutional Verderers' Court, and before the Commission appointed by the Act of Parliament, in order that a scheme may be prepared that will satisfy the legitimate claims of all classes of her Majesty's subjects, poor as well as rich.” He said that immediate steps would be taken before the Verderers' Court to secure the remainder of the forest to the public, and to prevent any encroachments in future. Mr. W. G. Smith, the secretary to the fund, who seconded the motion, spoke of the liberal manner in which subscriptions had flowed in, amongst the donors being Lady Burdett-Coutts and Mr. Wingfield-Baker, M.P., 50 gs. each. The committee had instructed counsel to appear before the Verderers' Court, and they would endeavour to prevent the sale of the soil of Wanstead Flats by Lord Cowley. The revenue from that source had been considerable to the Mornington estates, but they trusted soon to see it put an end to. No man had a right to sell land which did not belong to him, any more than the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports had to dispose of Dover Castle to the Emperor of Russia, however much that potentate might wish to get it. Mr. Smith spoke of the successful agitation in respect of Wandsworth, Wimbledon, and other common lands, and said that, although there were as many as twelve lords of the manor of Epping Forest, and many magistrates of the county whose hands were not clean in the matter of the inclosure, the committee were determined legally and properly to uphold the rights of the freeholders and the public, providing that the necessary funds were subscribed. Mr. Triggs moved, and Mr. J. Ford seconded, the following resolution:—“That this meeting expresses its entire confidence in the promoters of the Forest Fund, and its earnest belief that the objects of the fund, as already published, deserve hearty public support.” The resolutions were unanimously adopted, and the meeting passed off in the most orderly manner. A body of police were on the spot, but their services were in no degree required.

SALE OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON'S HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

SOME of the horses which belonged to the Emperor Napoleon III. were sold on Saturday, Aug. 26, in the ex-Imperial stables, under the Louvre picture-galleries. The pick of the Emperor's stud were taken at Sedan, and accompanied their master into captivity. On the conclusion of peace they were sent from Wilhelms-höhe to the château of Arenenberg, in Switzerland. Although the horses sold in Paris were, therefore, only a draught, they appear to have fetched good prices. Buridan, a handsome bay horse, fetched £160; Langiewicz, aged, went for £150; Foy reached £120; Rowerz and Mezidon went for £200 apiece; and a pair of carriage horses, both aged, were pushed up to £200, much over their apparent value. Several of the animals—notably the harness-horses—were bought for M. Thiers's use. The Imperial carriages, which, as well as the horses, have been in constant use by the successive Governments since the fall of the Empire (even Dombrowski drove about in a demi-state brougham with Imperial arms on the panels), were sold, on the anniversary of Sedan, in the Cour Visconti of the Louvre. The auctioneer, on opening the proceedings, announced that purchasers would have to pay 10 per cent in addition to the selling price, and that the arms on the panels must be painted out within forty-eight hours. The rates obtained were so high that dealers abstained altogether from competing.

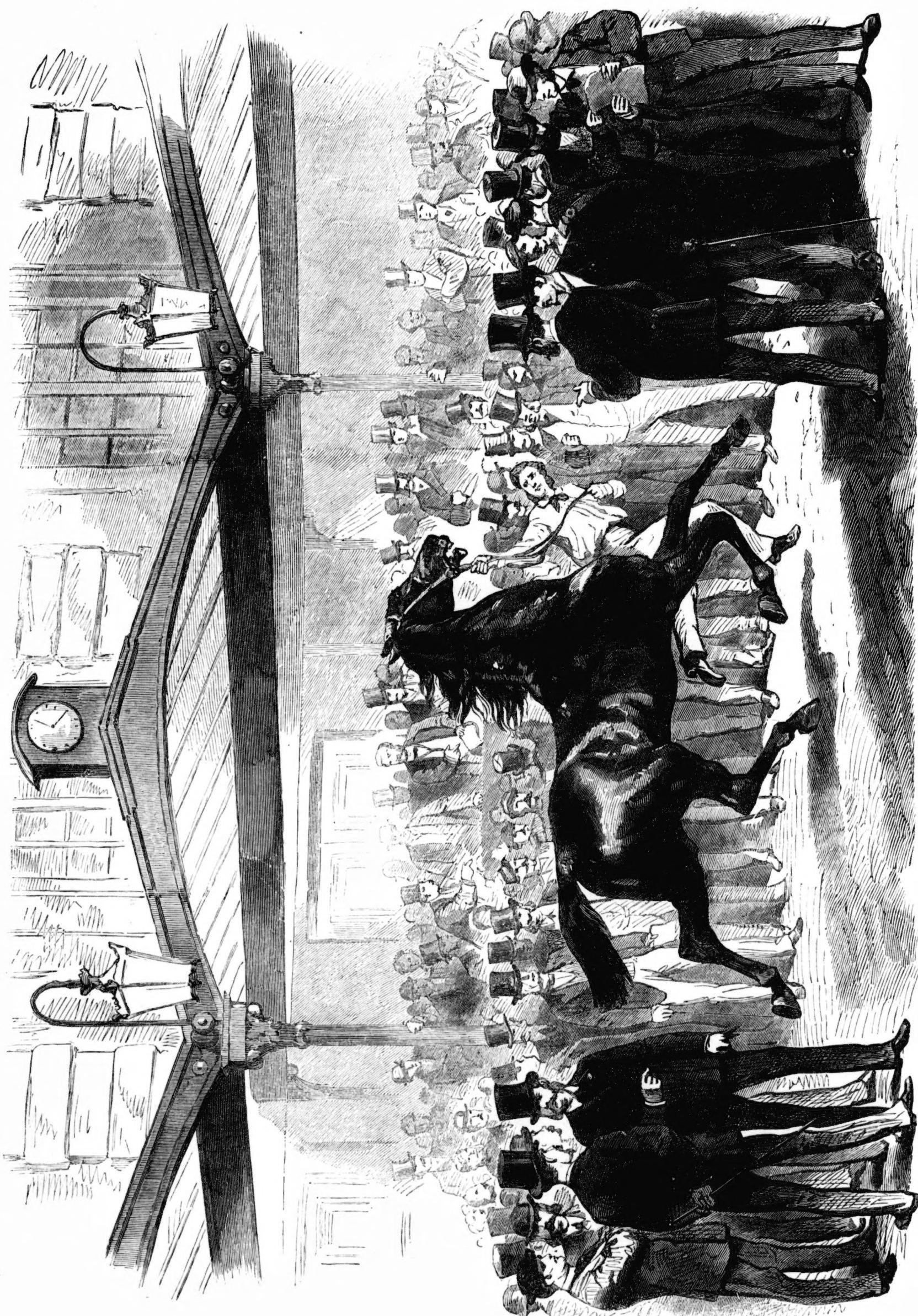
REMOVAL OF THE REMAINS OF DUTCH OFFICERS FROM BELGIUM.

OUR Engraving represents a recent incident which has recalled a phase of history connected with the time when France had but just recovered from the revolution of 1830 and Belgium was the bone of contention between European States, just as she was reported to have been the object of a secret treaty which went far towards the quarrel between France and Prussia that brought on the late terrible war.

The attempt to make Belgium a fief of Holland, and the deception to which the Dutch Government was subject in being permitted to enforce the claim under the belief that they would be supported in their demand, led to a determined insurrection of the Belgian people, and resulted in a struggle of which the siege of Anvers was one of the most important operations previous to the retirement of the Dutch forces and the abandonment of the claim of the King.

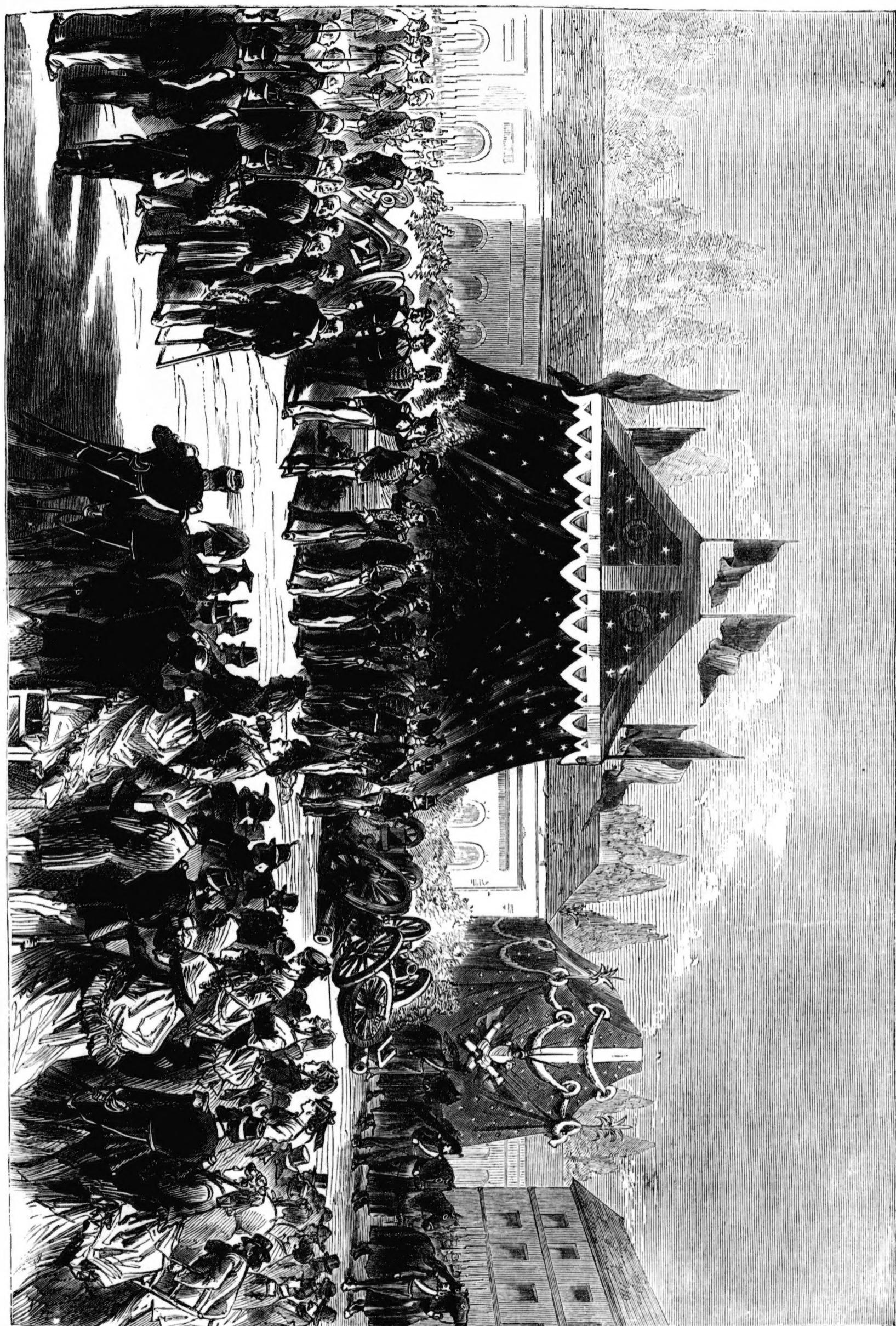
We have almost forgotten those incidents which led to the establishment of King Leopold on the Belgian throne by the influence of England; but the solemn incident that has just occurred revives the history of forty years ago. The remains of the officers who fell at the ancient citadel have been removed, and before the casernes of that citadel a funeral tent was a few days erected, where the troops of the garrison, in full parade, awaited the solemn ceremony. The civil and military authorities assembled; and Baron Pycke, governor of the province; General Eneus, who is in command of the forces; and General Coquillat, in command of the citadel, received the Dutch deputation, which was headed by General Count Limburg-Styrum, an old officer who was in the service of Holland at the time of the siege. After he had delivered an appropriate address, recognising the changes that had taken place, and the happier relations that subsisted between the two countries, each of which was free, the catafalque beneath which the ashes of the dead were placed was carried by non-commissioned officers of the regiment to the outside of the enclosure, amidst the firing of cannon. Some detachments of the regiments of the artillery of the Line and a military band accompanied it to the gate, where the Dutch flotilla received the remains, the entire harbour presenting a strange appearance in consequence of the number of vessels with which it was covered. Towards mid-day the flotilla was ready to depart, and moved away amidst salvos of artillery and the strains of the national hymn of Holland.

A POOR OLD SUPERANNUED SAILMAKER NAMED RYDER has been murdered at Devonport by James Taylor, a sailor, recently paid off from the Rattlesnake. Deceased's niece had robbed Taylor, and on the latter applying to Ryder for some help he only gave him some dry bread and a penny. This was the excuse of the murderer for his fearful crime. The Coroner's jury has returned a verdict of wilful murder against Taylor.



SIDE OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON'S STUD IN THE COURTYARD OF THE LOUVRE, PARIS.

REMOVAL OF THE REMAINS OF DUTCH OFFICERS KILLED IN THE SIEGE OF THE CITADEL OF ANVERS, DURING THE WAR BETWEEN BELGIUM AND HOLLAND.



ADDRESSES BY MR. GLADSTONE.

AT WHITBY.

LAST Saturday night the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone was presented with an address by the members of the Whitby Working Men's Liberal Association, in the Congress Hall, on the West Cliff. Mr. George J. Watson Farquhar, chairman of the association, presided. The large hall was densely packed, the seats having been removed to allow more room for those desirous to gain admission. Loud cheers greeted the Premier and chairman. After a brief address, the chairman introduced

Mr. J. Bate, who read the address, which rejoiced to have the opportunity of expressing their sincere regard for the Premier personally, and their admiration of the qualities which, with unvarying patriotism as a statesman, he has so long exhibited.

The Premier, on rising to respond, was greeted with enthusiastic cheering, the audience rising en masse and waving their hats. After the applause had subsided, the right hon. gentleman proceeded to say that he accepted with much pleasure the excellent address which Mr. Bate had placed in his hands. It was a matter of necessity that a meeting like this should assume a political turn. If he could, he would be glad to bury politics in the months of August and September. The share that fell to his lot in the other ten months of the year would satisfy any reasonable man; but he would not forget the opportunity which this meeting gave him of saying to them a few things and passing before them and depositing, if he might presume to say so, in their sympathetic minds and hearts, some few sentiments relating to the exact position of public affairs. This he would do for this special reason, that although he did not think that the general mind and persuasion of the people had of late undergone any material or unfavourable change in respect to politics, yet undoubtedly there had been at the centre and at head-quarters in the metropolis an appearance of change. He was not there to dissemble that criticism had been very freely and copiously bestowed, within the last few weeks, he might say months, on the conduct of the Government. That criticism did not stop with the Government, for if it did it would matter little; but it passed through the Government to that majority in Parliament by which the Government has been steadily supported, and through that majority in Parliament to that majority of the people of the three kingdoms by whom they have been sent to Parliament. So far as the general effects of political criticism, even when very adverse, was concerned, he assured them that although, like other men, he was weak enough to prefer commendation to condemnation, yet this kind of criticism did not materially interfere with either his sleep or his appetite. He said this, not because he was so arrogant as to suppose that he and his colleagues had done nothing to deserve criticism and censure. He knew from his own experience that they were all weak and fallible men, and overburdened men; for every Government in this country must be an overburdened Government. There was not a day of his life on which he had not occasion at night to regret that its duties had not been so effectively performed as they might. But the reason why criticism was no very painful thing to him was this—that he had the fullest confidence in the just and the indulgent judgment of his fellow-countrymen. Sometimes, after reading an article in a newspaper, he might almost suppose, after going through the interminable catalogue of the follies and the crimes he had committed, that he must be little less than a monster; but the people of this country, sensible of the blessings of a free press, worked with freedom and with immense dispatch, knew also that it required to be read, especially at times and seasons, with some reserve and reflective judgment; and it was the people to whom he looked to redress the balance of criticism in the press if the press went wrong, just as he looked to the press, and just as he was deeply and profoundly grateful to the press, for its fidelity in pointing out the errors of public men, and his own errors among them, perfectly satisfied as he was that in the end no injustice would be done. At the present moment it was in London that they found the focus of criticism and rebuke; and no man could fail to observe, if he was a reader of the metropolitan papers, and if he was also a reader of the provincial papers—no man, he repeated, could fail to perceive a considerable difference of tone between them. A considerable section of the metropolitan press had discussed with greater severity the proceedings of Parliament in the last Session than had been the case with the provincial press. He was bound to say that he could find one reason for that influence in the fact that the present Government had not hesitated, when it thought the public interest required it, to make proposals that had been highly offensive to powerful classes in this country. And there were some who said, "More fools you for doing it; why do you go into hornets' nests?" But in reply to that he would say that if a Government was armed with the confidence of a majority in Parliament, it was their duty to use it according to the best convictions they could form of what was required, and not in order to make things smooth; it was their duty to use it not to shield themselves from disagreeable criticism, but to pursue the great interests of the country at large. In London it was not the interests of classes which were specially concentrated. It was there that wealth was all powerful, and wealth had taken desperate offence at their actions during the present year, because the Government recommended to Parliament that power in the English Army should no longer be the prize of wealth, but the reward of merit. He was not accusing any class of persons of dishonest or discreditable proceedings. He was only speaking of the natural bias under which most human beings acted when they supposed their interests were brought into hazard, and the effect of that bias was most felt where wealth was concentrated, as in the metropolis, and where what was called the opinion of the clubs, rather than the opinion of this great nation, was reflected in a considerable portion of the metropolitan press. He disputed the justice of the criticism which had been bestowed on the House of Commons. He would not say whether they had mismanaged public affairs or whether they had not, but he would say this—for he was compelled to say it, and if it partook of boasting it was extorted from him and not volunteered—he would say this, that three years of labour of the present Parliament would bear comparison with any three years of Parliamentary labour within the memory of the oldest man in that room. If that were for the credit of the Government he might hesitate to say it; but it was by the determination of Parliament that this result had been achieved. He was glad that in the address presented to him the working men declared their approval of the measures for the good of Ireland, and characterised them as necessary and judicious. They (the Government) had asserted that firmly through all the long and anxious discussions that took place on these measures in the years 1868, 1869, and 1870; and he rejoiced to think that they (the Government) were not always to be alone in that assertion. With respect to the Irish Land Bill, he rejoiced to say that the public opinion of the country was growing in force every day they lived; and as to the working of the bill, on his own part he was not one whit less confident that, as years passed on, those who were immediately affected by the passing of the Act for the disestablishment of the Irish Church would be equally convinced that it would be a blessing to that Church, considered as a religious institution. He did not pretend to say that the general opinion in Ireland worked as rapidly in their direction in regard to that measure as in regard to the Land Bill, but it was working in that direction; and the signs of its so working were amply sufficient to show that, as with respect to the repeal of the Corn Laws, the repeal of the Navigation Laws, and the extension of the franchise, and as with respect to all the great measures that have made the last forty or fifty years conspicuous, the day was very nearly at hand when, with respect to the disestablishment of the Irish Church, they would be one united and unanimous people. He had spoken of these three years, but he was prepared to take up the cudgels for even the last of the three. Most of their opponents admitted that they did a tolerable stroke of business in 1869 and 1870, but 1871, they said, had been a total, miserable, disgraceful failure. Well,

he would not say that 1871 was as good a year as 1869 or 1870. He was sorry to say that the kind of opposition that they had to confront in 1871 had been of a different description from that they had to meet in 1869 and 1870, when, to the honour and credit of the Parliamentary Opposition, the great measures with reference to the Irish Church and Irish land were discussed in the most frank and fairest manner. He did not want to beg the question, but he had his own opinion about it, and it was for them to determine who was responsible for the delay, and whether the manner in which the discussion on the Army Bill, in particular, had been conducted ought or ought not to have the approbation of the country. They would not find during the last fifty years one year in ten, or even one year in five, which would show a better turnout of work than even the despised and reviled Session of 1871. The Army Regulation Bill, alone was sufficient to make and confer honour upon the Session. At the last the power of the Crown was brought in, but it could not have been done without the bill. He would not refer to other measures than the Act for the Abolition of University Tests and an Act for placing Trades Unions on a legal footing, and the repeal of the Ecclesiastical Titles Act. The latter may be thought a trifling measure, but it kept the country in agitation a whole Session, and brought with it no good result. It did nothing but annoy a large portion of our fellow-countrymen, and a painful controversy was brought to an end. The Ballot Bill, it was said by the opponents, was forced through the House of Commons by the obstinacy and tyranny of the majority which wished to pass it, and the Government did all it could to help them. It had come to be a serious question whether the will of majorities was to prevail or the will of minorities, and by the rules of the House was to bar the way to the passing of useful measures. It was not obstinacy, it was not tyranny, that forced it through the House, but it was in conformity with the wish of the majority. It might be confessing his ignorance, but he said he did not know that it would be rejected by the House of Lords, and he would not believe that it would be rejected by the Lords. It had been rejected, and he sincerely regretted it; but the time had not been lost; all the labour was not lost, as would have been the case if the House of Commons—the people's House—had rejected the people's bill. The people's House had, however, passed the people's bill, and that bill when presented again at the door of the House of Lords, as he trusted it would be very early next Session, would be presented with an authoritative knock which it would not otherwise have possessed. We have been abused for not doing sufficient work; but legislation was a very serious matter, and ought to be slow. Great scope ought to be given to reasonable discussion, and even unreasonable discussion. Haste in legislation worked greater mischief than delay. It had been the wisdom of the Legislature to prefer the legislation which was slow and sure to that which was fitful, and had often afterwards to be reversed. No doubt many a clever fellow writing in a newspaper could put his finger on many a blot on our legislation and show how it might have been done, and he had no doubt but that he thought he could have done it better himself. He advised them not to falter in their support of the men whom they sent to Parliament, and who, he believed, had done their duty. That being the case, it did not much matter which Government was in office. If they did their duty and gave satisfaction they would assuredly not be turned out. If they did not do their duty they would assuredly be dismissed. There was some importance felt in this country with reference to foreign politics. They had striven to preserve the peace of Europe without abandoning the position of this country. The time had not come, and he doubted whether it would ever come, when this country could swear all interference in foreign affairs. He hoped the time had come when the petty, peddling, narrow policy of meddling with the affairs of other nations would not be tolerated. The whole system of maintaining influence abroad and of maintaining the good opinion of one country meant obtaining it by the enmity of the other. There was now a new world. There were many questions unsettled when they went into office between the United States and this country. At the beginning of the year there were many questions between those countries which might have kindled a fire at any moment, but during this year they had been able to bring several of these to a satisfactory and amicable conclusion. He rejoiced that our own kith and kin—those who spoke our language, those in whose veins our blood was running, those who had followed the spirit of the free institutions of this country—could now look upon us as friends, and indulge the hope that all controversies between us had for ever been disposed of. Money was a subject upon which the people of England could not be too sensitive or exercise too great a vigilance. If we spent money wrongly the Government had better be put out of office, but those who criticised them did not come into court with clean hands. The expenditure of the present Government would bear comparison with that of the Governments which had preceded it. The naval and military estimates for 1868 and 1869 were peace estimates. There was no war in Europe at that time. They were prepared by their predecessors, and amounted to twenty-six millions. When the present Government came into office they had to prepare the estimates for 1870, which were reduced by £4,200,000. The Estimates for 1868 and 1869 were estimates framed for a period of profound peace; the Estimates of 1870, when Europe was torn and distracted with war. They afterwards had to add two millions more money, but this only brought it up to twenty-four millions. The special cause of the augmentation was the danger in which Belgium appeared to be placed at the commencement of the cruel and distracting war between France and Germany. Was this forced upon Parliament by the Government? He believed Parliament was moved by the sentiments of the people. If they had had a great national case for the organisation of the army, and their estimates had consequently been increased to make provision, they would be surprised that though they had risen to twenty-five millions, they were still less than the estimates of their predecessors, framed for a period when Europe was in a state of profound peace. A sum of £6,000,000 was required for the abolition of purchase, by which the day of money should come to an end, and the day of merit should begin. The taxation of the country was a great deal. He wished it was less, and every effort should be made to reduce it. He was told that the people of Surrey had been led into the mistake of sending the wrong man to Parliament because the income tax had been raised to sixpence. What was the income tax three years ago? Exactly the same identical little coin. Taking the whole period that they had been in office they had imposed four millions of taxation, and repealed nine millions—saving the country five millions. This was a matter to be remembered when they had the expenditure flung into their teeth by politicians who had done nothing to reduce our taxation. The taxation of the country was not in a satisfactory state; but they must remember that this was a period of transition, and he earnestly advised his hearers steadily to pursue the subject of public economy, and when demands were made upon them to be sure that they were for a good purpose. He would say a few words for their guidance and his own. There was a tendency to favour the interest of some particular persons, some class, or some place, as contrasted with the interests of the people at large. Beware of that tendency, beware of that narrow tendency, very popular and very fashionable just now. It was a tendency to what he would call—if he might coin a word—alarmism. There were great numbers of people in this country who could not be satisfied without endeavouring to excite the imagination of the people with phantoms of constant danger, always persuading them that every nation of Europe was full of envy and every bad passion toward them. They, of course, had no passions themselves. This disposition sat worse on us than on any other country, because we had the reputation in Europe—he was afraid not altogether unjustly—of being rather an arrogant people; and if we were so, what could be more ridiculous or deserving such profound contempt than to see these very people lashing themselves into a state of apprehension and panic, and endeavouring to persuade one another that

all mankind was in a conspiracy against them? Alluding to the "Battle of Dorking," he said such productions made us ridiculous in the eyes of the world, and the practical result was the spending still more of the people's money. Be on your guard, the right hon. gentleman said, against "alarmism;" depend upon it there is not this standing irrational disposition on the part of all mankind to make us objects of hostility. If we will only treat others well, they, on the whole, will treat us well. I hope we mean to treat them well, and if so we shall usually be treated well by them in return. Let this Old England, let this great United Kingdom, place her trust in Providence. Remember that great Almighty to whom in the closing terms of this address we are so becomingly reminded; let us place our trust, next to Providence, in ourselves, in our own good sense, in our steadiness of judgment, and in our strong, persevering will. Let us remember that we have inherited from our forefathers a very rich and noble treasure, and that our duty as Liberal politicians is to improve that treasure, and not impair it. For my own part, I earnestly hope and pray that when the last day of my political life arrives (and that day cannot be far distant) I may be enabled to feel with a reasonable assurance that that has been my own personal effort from the first day of it to the last. Let us, too, strive to maintain while we former times managed their concerns, and by which they have made for themselves no slight or secondary name among the nations. Let us endeavour to get rid of all selfish and narrow ends, and let us recollect that golden law of doing to others, in political no less than in private life, as we would be done by. Let us strive to promote a union of class with class. Let us endeavour to straighten the foundation not only of physical but moral strength. The power of this country is not decaying; it is increasing in itself, and increasing as compared with the power of other nations in Europe. It is only our pride, it is only our passions, it is only our follies which ever constituted a real danger to us. If we can master these no other foe can hurt us, and many a long year will make its round, and many a generation of men will be gathered to its fathers before the country in which we were born, and which we deeply love, need forfeit or lose its place among the nations of the world (Loud and prolonged cheering).

Mr. W. H. Gladstone, M.P. for the borough, made a few remarks, and the meeting broke up with vociferous applause for the Premier and Mrs. Gladstone.

AT WAKEFIELD.

Mr. Gladstone made another speech on Tuesday, at Thorne House, the residence of Mr. J. Milnes Gaskell, where he had been sought out by the Wakefield Liberal Association, which presented him with an address. The right hon. gentleman, advertizing to the title of the association whose representatives had waited upon him, remarked that as we have now had in full operation a popular system of representation for the last forty years, the experience of that forty years has in a great degree proved that the party which is known as the Liberal party is upon the whole the stronger in this country. He did not think it likely or desirable that it should absorb and supersede the other party. He regarded it, however, as very important to the soundness and health of each party that the other should be sound and healthy also. "You cannot have one of the two great parties which divide public sentiment in this country seriously depressed in its moral tone without the contagion, so to speak, spreading to the other." Parties should compete with each other in doing the real business of the country, as he thought they did in the time of Sir Robert Peel. Having expressed his sense of the benefits conferred upon the country by free trade, Mr. Gladstone spoke with regret of the prevalence of Protectionist views in America, in our own colonies, and in France. As to France, he said:—"If further restrictions be introduced into the commercial system of France we must suffer from it. Our trade must be in a certain degree diminished and hampered by their means, and a relative diminution of our profits and wealth must follow; but, great as is the sympathy I entertain towards those special branches of industry that may especially suffer, I make bold to say that the main source of my regret is not for our sakes, because I am thankful to feel that the commerce of this country has attained such a position with respect to the markets of the world that we have passed the time when we are dependent upon the markets of any particular country whatever, and it is much more (it may sound a little sentimental to say so), but it is really more for the sake of France that I regret this than I do for our own; but I regret it in our own interest, I regret it in the interest of France, I regret it in the interest of civilisation, and I regret it in the interest of peace and goodwill towards mankind, because civilisation and refinement and goodwill are immediately and inseparably associated with the friendly motives of the nations of Europe which commerce brings forth."

NEW TREATMENT OF DIPHTHERIA.—The *Italia Nuova* publishes a letter from Dr. Giovanni Caligari describing the remarkable success which he attended his treatment of diphtheria with phenic acid. He relates the losses he formerly experienced among his patients when treating them with emollients, solvents, and cauterisation with hydrochloric acid, and observes that this cauterisation can no more eradicate the morbid principle than tearing the leaves off a plant will destroy the root. He now simply uses a gauze of phenic acid and distilled water, with external applications of new daniel: the food and drink to be taken cold. After the adoption of this treatment Dr. Caligari lost but one patient out of fifty-eight (principally children). He requests the Italian journals to publish this discovery. Phenic acid is the agent which is now being used in America as a remedy for cancer, and seems likely to effect an immense saving of lives formerly hopelessly sacrificed to that disease.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.—By a recent Act in the New Hampshire Legislature a system is provided "to compel children to attend school." Every parent or guardian of a child between eight and fourteen years of age must send him to some public school within two miles of his residence twelve weeks in each year. Six weeks at least of such schooling must be consecutive. The parent or guardian is relieved from sending such child to public school in case he is instructed for the time mentioned, at home or in some private school, in the branches taught in the public schools or in more advanced studies. The penalty for violation of this law is 10 dollars for the first offence, and 20 dollars for the second and every subsequent offence. The local school board, on notice from any taxpayer of any violation of the law, must institute suit, under penalty of 25 dollars, for each neglect to enforce the law.

THE REGENT'S CANAL.—The offensive condition of the Regent's Canal has formed the subject of several recent discussions at the meetings of the sanitary boards of the east and north of London. At the last meeting of the Mile-End Old Town Vestry, Dr. Corner, the medical officer of health of the district, made a special report wherein he stated that, in consequence of the complaints which had been made, he had instituted a special examination of the waters of the canal. The water contained a large quantity of green vegetable matter in suspension, either derived from the sudden ingress of a large quantity of stagnant water or from the passage of the stream over a considerable area of thick and fresh vegetation previous to its entering the Regent's Canal. Water in this condition would be liable to become offensive by being exposed to the rays of a hot sun, and more especially if stagnant, by decomposition of the vegetable matter suspended. Dr. Corner added that, from the samples he had made of the water, he believed it to contain such a quantity of vegetable matter in suspension as would, under continued exposure to heat, cause it to become a source of danger to the public health through the emanations which would necessarily arise therefrom. Dr. Aubin gave it as his opinion that the Regent's Canal water would cause spasms if given to a dumb animal, for it evidently contained a large proportion of animal matter, and its neighbourhood would prove to be the seat of cholera if the disease made its appearance. Mr. Knight observed that during his twenty years' residence on the banks of the canal it had never been in a more offensive condition than at present. Ropes of green slime floated on the surface of the water, and the odour from it was extremely sickening. In the course of the subsequent discussion the origin of the nuisance was stated to be the introduction of pumping apparatus at the locks of the canal for the purpose of raising the water as it fell at the opening of the locks, the result being the formation of a series of stagnant lakes instead of a moving stream. The sanitary authorities of the district have resolved to call upon the Regent's Canal Company to put the canal in a proper condition, and to remind them that before they resorted to the practice of pumping the water back the canal was not in such an offensive condition as at present. Further, it has been resolved to empower the solicitor of the vestry to communicate with the Privy Council in the event of the nuisance remaining unabated.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1871.

MELIORA.

BETTER things—it would be trite to observe that there is plenty of room for them in various directions. We are particularly glad to see the increased activity which distinguishes the departments and persons whose duty it is to see after the removal of nuisances of various kinds, although the existing Acts of Parliament—which are themselves defective enough in all conscience—are still far, very far, from being worked up to the height of the powers they confer. It is gratifying to see a shopkeeper fined for selling as "spiced beef," or something of that kind, a composition unfit for human food, and several publicans punished for adulterating beer. There can be no doubt that under various names—"collared head" being one—large quantities of unwholesome and partially poisonous stuff are at this moment on sale among the poor and the comparatively poor, and are largely consumed by them too, so effectually is the real quality of the preparations disguised by spicing, salting, and flavouring of various kinds. At least half the bottled beers that are sold are seriously adulterated, and sadly want looking after.

But why do not the officials and other prosecutors fly at higher game than costermongers and poor widows? It was only the other day that a man who had been selling bad melons offered, with, as the French say, "the best faith in the world," to eat one of his own fruit in court, though it was in a most dangerous stage of decomposition. It is not impossible that the *dura itia* of either this barrowman or the seller of the spiced beef would have tolerated the condemned article; and it is quite certain that the flavour of neither the melon nor the meat would have offended the nose or the palate of either. But the manufacturers of the latter and the brokers of the former knew better what they were about, and it is offenders of that class who want a touch of the law's lash. We feel curious to know what would be the result of an authorised examination of the so-called "German sausage" that is sold by half the cook-shop keepers in London. And why should Gladstone claret and cheap hocks escape? It is well known that there are large importers of wine who systematically and wofully adulterate them before they sell them to the public. We could name houses which really do receive large quantities of pure wines from abroad, and which publish copies of the Customs' returns as a proof that they do so, but which have large establishments where the wines are "cooked." Now, a bottle of claret roughened with alum is as "unfit for human food" as a decaying melon. To come still closer, there is the bread—of which the least said the soonest mended. We know how deficient and how difficult to work are the powers of the Acts applying to adulteration, to nuisances, and to a number of other sanitary matters; but something could be done beyond what is done, though anything like a beginning is welcome.

One reason why the poor are so ready to buy trash like the "spiced beef" that was condemned the other day is well known—their ignorance of cookery and their unwillingness to try anything new. They want some sort of change of food, and they do not know how to get it, so they make a clutch at anything pungent that comes to hand first. It will be a long while, of course, before anything of the nature of improvement in domestic economy will filter down to the poor; but our readers will be glad to note that an institute for that purpose is really more than possible at the present time. Large subscriptions and distinguished names, and an evident readiness to work, attest the progress of a scheme for such an institute, which has been set on foot under the presidency of the Earl of Shaftesbury; and no doubt some good will come out of it, though we do not feel very sanguine about the spread or the continuance of the movement. Let us, however, hope for the best.

That the girls shall be taught to "cook plain food exquisitely" is part of the plan of Mr. Ruskin's new Utopia, for which he has already set apart some of the money he promised. That distinguished gentleman complains that most of the papers treat his plan with ridicule, or disrespect of some other kind. We entirely disagree with Mr. Ruskin's general political doctrines, but his proposed experiment has received nothing but respectful treatment in this journal, and we believe a model estate of that kind, as a model and an educational suggestion, cannot fail of doing much good.

THE THAMES REGATTA.—The Thames Regatta took place last Saturday under the most auspicious circumstances. The weather was delightful, and most of the races were well contested. But beyond the beauty of the day and the excellence of the rowing, the regatta will be long famous for the presence of the Lord Mayor in state. Twenty or more years have elapsed since the chief magistrate honoured these sports with his presence, and the lord and reiterately cheering with which the civic barge was every where received showed how agreeable to the Thames watermen was the honour thus conferred upon them.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN'S HEALTH is improving; but her Majesty has had to submit to a trifling operation upon her arm, which has terminated favourably.

PRINCESS LOUISE AND THE MARQUIS OF LORNE paid a visit to the training-ship Cumberland on the Gareloch last Saturday. The Princess distributed the prizes to the boys who had earned them, and received from the chairman of the directors an album containing portraits of all the boys on board, 350 in number. Speeches were made by the Duke of Argyll, the Marquis of Lorne, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Lord Lawrence.

MR. GLADSTONE left Whitby on Monday, en route to Hawarden Castle. The right hon. gentleman in the evening arrived at Wakefield, on a visit to Mr. J. M. Gaskell. A large crowd assembled to welcome the Premier, and great enthusiasm was manifested.

COLONEL STEPHEN, M.P. for the Carmarthenshire District of Boroughs, is about to be made a Baronet.

OVER FOUR THOUSAND CASES OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE were reported at the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Lancashire on Saturday.

STRIKES are taking place in several establishments in Brussels, the principal demand of the artisans being a reduction in the hours of labour.

BY THE AMENDED VACCINATION ACT (34 and 35 Victoria, cap. 98) every registrar of births and deaths is required, once at least in every month, to transmit to the vaccination officer of the place a return of the births and deaths of all infants under twelve months old which have been registered by him.

ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL is now open for the reception of patients.

THE DIRECTORS of the North Eastern Railway Company have resolved to adopt the eight hours system for signalmen at all the more important junctions of their extensive lines.

FOUR PLATELAYERS, who were watching a goods-train on the line between Preston and Barrow, on Wednesday morning, were run down by a passenger-train and killed.

THE TRAMWAYS between Blackfriars Bridge, East Greenwich, and Blackheath were opened for traffic on Wednesday. The journey to Blackheath is performed in about forty minutes.

A GREAT WESTERN PASSENGER TRAIN ran into some trucks near Reading, on Tuesday evening, and some sixteen persons, including an engine-driver and two guards, were more or less injured. The traffic was delayed three hours.

HAMILTON CO.'S WOOLLEN FACTORY AND WOOL STORE, Horrabridge, near Plymouth, was totally destroyed by fire on Wednesday. The damage is estimated at £4000, which is fully covered by insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown. One hundred men are thrown out of employment.

THE POTATO CROP is turning out very badly in Cumberland, where a large breadth is annually planted. Disease has made much progress, and farmers, on coming to take up potatoes for the market within the last few days, have been greatly disappointed to find what a large proportion of them had been blighted.

THE LONDON REPUBLICANS have issued a programme in which they announce as their object, "The attainment of the highest standard of political and social rights for man, and the promotion of the intellectual, moral, and material welfare of mankind."

MR. COX, OF KNUTSFORD, was, on Tuesday, fined in the mitigated penalty of 50s. for a novel offence against the excise laws. As the starter at an athletic festival he had used a pistol, for which no license had been taken out.

A TYPHOON occurred on the Chinese coast on Saturday last. Nearly a dozen ships are reported to be ashore, but no loss of life is announced.

A MEMORIAL MONUMENT has just been erected in New South Wales to the memory of Captain Cook, at the supposed place at which he landed from the Endeavour in April, 1770. On the monument are two brass plates, one bearing the following inscription:—"Captain Cook landed here 28th of April, 1770. This monument was erected by the Hon. Thomas Holt, M.L.L., A.D. 1870. Victoria Regina. The Earl of Belmore, Governor." The other contains the words from Captain Cook's journal describing his discovery of the bay.

AN EXPLOSION took place at a fireworks factory in Bristol about three o'clock on Sunday morning. No person was injured, but the windows of a church and some houses were broken.

A HERRING-BOAT belonging to Wick has been caught by the tides in the Pentland Firth and founded off the Skerries. The crew, five in number, are all drowned, and the boat and materials lost.

MR. H. B. WOOLSEY, late cashier at Messrs. J. and J. Colman's, at Norwich, has been committed for trial on a charge of embezzlement about £2500.

A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT happened to a lady near Ormskirk last Saturday. She was inspecting a thrashing-machine which was in motion, and fell into it. Before she could be extricated one of her legs was chopped off.

THE STEAMER HOLLAND arrived at Calcutta on the 2nd ult., thirty-three days out from Liverpool, including two days and five hours occupied in passing through the Suez Canal. This is said to be the quickest passage record between the two ports.

TWO CATTLE SALESMEN were, last Saturday, fined by the county magistrates at Liverpool £25 and £10 respectively for having exposed in the cattle market certain animals affected with foot and mouth disease.

GEORGE BARKER, fork-grinder, employed at the grinding-wheel of Mr. Shipton, West-street, Sheffield, has been rattened by having his wheel-bands removed during the night; consequently he is unable to work. Barker is a unionist, and is not aware of any dispute with the union.

THE MAN RODWAY, who made a murderous attack upon Mrs. Carrington, at the Devil's Jumps, has been committed for trial. At the examination of the prisoner last Saturday Mrs. Carrington was present, and admitted that she had for some time lived with the prisoner as his wife.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY in London has written to a French paper to say that all the manifestos printed in Paris in the name of the society since the entry of the French troops are, without exception, forgeries. He is ready to make an affidavit of this before an English magistrate.

MR. WALTER MONTGOMERY, the actor, committed suicide on Friday evening week; and the result of an inquest, which was held last Saturday, was a verdict of "Temporary insanity." Mr. Montgomery had married only on the Wednesday preceding an American lady named Bigelow.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL is now undergoing the process of a thorough cleansing, painting, and re-decorating throughout all the wards. In consequence of this, the board of governors have decided to close the hospital until the 16th inst., so far as the admission of fresh outpatients is concerned. All accidents and urgent cases, however, will be admitted as usual.

FINES of £20 each were imposed by Mr. Mansfield at Marylebone Police Court on Monday, on Thomas Beckett Chase, hairdresser, carrying on business at 17, Ernest-street, Regent's Park; and Nathan Levi, a tobacconist and newsagent, of 35, Ernest-street, Regent's Park, for using their houses as common betting-houses, and betting with persons resorting thereto.

AT THE NOTTINGHAM RAILWAY STATION, on Sunday evening, an engine passing from one part to another of that extensive network of lines, by some mistake with the points ran into a train which was standing at the platform taking up passengers for Sheffield. A number of persons who had taken their seats were violently shaken, and many of them more or less injured.

THE STRIKES in the north of England continue, and are assuming still more threatening aspects. Mr. Digby Seymour, the Recorder of Newcastle, has written a letter to Mr. J. Cowen, jun., in which he suggests that the matters in dispute should in "large centres" be referred to a court composed of the Recorder of the borough, two masters, and two mechanics.

CONSUL SEVERN, in a report supplied by him from Rome, and recently laid before Parliament by the Foreign Office, notices the very fine quality of Roman voices, and states that it is attributed to the mothers swaddling their babies. When a mother is employed out of doors the baby is suspended from its back to a nail in the wall, and allowed to cry for several hours together, "which continued act of crying exercises and forms the vocal organs in an extraordinary way."

A REPORT of all the circumstances connected with the grounding of her Majesty's armoured ship *Repose*, 12, 800-horse power, near the entrance to the Medway, has been made to the Admiralty, and the whole subject is now under the consideration of the board. There is no doubt, however, that a court-martial will be ordered to investigate the circumstances of the grounding of the vessel, and that Captain W. R. Rolland, C.B., and the other officers concerned, will be placed on their trial.

AMERICAN BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORIES.—It is estimated that there are in the United States 1300 butter and cheese factories, supplied with the milk of 300,000 cows, and producing yearly about 190,000,000 lb. of cheese and the same number of gallons of milk. Every 8000 cows, therefore, yield every year 1,000,000 lb. of cheese, valued, it is stated, at 140,000 dols.; so that each cow yields 233 lb. of cheese, valued at 47 dols. The export of American cheese to Great Britain averaged in 1870 at 57,000,000 lb., valued at 8,000,000 dols.

THE LOUNGER.

AND so it is settled that Captain Vivian is to vacate his post as Parliamentary Financial Under-Secretary for War, and take the place of permanent Under-Secretary. The salary is the same for each of these offices—to wit, £2000 a year; but the Parliamentary Financial Secretary goes out with the Ministry, whilst the permanent Under-Secretary no political storm affects. Hence the change. Captain Vivian has gained honour since he came into office. Last Session, in the debates upon the Army Regulation Bill, he showed abilities which few people thought that he possessed, and men augured that he would probably rise to high office. But the gallant Captain, it seems, is not ambitious, and prefers solid pudding to empty praise. Captain Vivian is the son of the first Baron Vivian. Of course, Captain Vivian vacates his seat for Truro. Permanent Secretaries cannot sit in Parliament.

And now news of not a pleasant nature comes from Truro. Mr. Augustus Smith—the Lord of the Scilly Isles—who represented Truro from 1857 to 1863, is trying to get elected again, and it is thought he will succeed, which Heaven forbid! for of all the bores which in my time have sat in the House, Mr. Augustus Smith was the most pertinacious and untiring. His pet subject was foreshores—who ought to have them, or to have control over them—the Crown, or the proprietors of the adjacent lands? What hours did Mr. Augustus Smith waste upon this subject! Yes, they were all wasted; for nobody listened. The talk was never reported, except in the most condensed form, and I venture to assert that not one in a million of her Majesty's subjects ever read it. I must not, however, forget that Mr. Augustus Smith was not altogether an evil, for he often got us a night's holiday. It was, I remember, said that Mr. Augustus Smith had been oftener counted out than any other member. Mr. Smith's speeches are of the dullest, weariest, dreariest kind. To me they were a wonder; and yet how prompt and resolute this gentleman can be in action! For this is the man who, when Lord Brownlow inclosed some common land near Berkhamsted which he had no right to take, sent down one night a train-load of navvies to pull down the fences, which was effectually done, and done for aye; for though his Lordship threatened, he did nothing.

I think Mr. Gladstone was right when he said that, though severely censured by the metropolitan papers, he has the support of the Liberal provincial press. Before he spoke at Whitby I had been struck with the fact that every northern provincial Liberal paper which I took up heartily defended the Prime Minister. Some of these papers take high ground. The *Liverpool Mercury*, for example, declares that the metropolis has never been a great political power; that the politicians there are not independent—they take their cue from the talk of the clubs; and that if Gladstone has the support of the great provinces, which they say he undoubtedly has, he need not care about the metropolis. And in much the same fashion spoke, a week ago, the *Hereford Times*, the largest English paper I ever saw—and it is, I hear, a very influential paper. The argument of these papers is this:—What if there have been conspicuous failures? It is questionable whether they ought to be charged upon Gladstone. But be this as it may be, has any Minister ever done such great works as he has done since he became Prime Minister in December, 1868? He has abolished a Church Establishment. Fancy that. This is a feat never performed before. He has given Ireland a more liberal land law than any other country in the world has. We have got an Education Act, not perfect, certainly—has, indeed, some ugly blotches in it, but these will undoubtedly in time be got rid of. The Universities are open to all comers; Army purchase is abolished; the Ballot is being launched, and will speedily become law, &c. There are other measures of a smaller kind deserving notice if I had but space to notice them—the repeal, for example, of the Papal Aggression Act, which Lord John fastened on us, and which, though a dead letter, has been ever since it was passed a great trouble. When we were in the House we saw little but the failures of the Government, but we have got now to the right focal distance, can see all that they have done, and their successes and failures in their true proportions, and, truly, the failures, compared with the successful achievements, look very small.

I wonder who will succeed Captain Vivian as Parliamentary Financial Secretary? There is a rumour, I hear, that the place will not be filled up; but this I do not believe. Mr. Cardwell pleaded last year that he needed further assistance, and he created two new places—to wit, that of the Surveyor-General of Ordnance, now held by General Sir Henry Storks, and that of Financial Secretary, and it is hardly likely that he will abolish the Financial Secretaryship so soon. But, if not, who will have the place? I have long thought that Captain Beaumont, member for South Durham, would take office if it were offered him. He is a quiet man, but can speak with ease, and is a steady and an enlightened Army reformer.

Another report comes to me—viz., that Mr. Bruce is to leave the Home Office and that Mr. Stansfeld is to go there. This is reported by the London correspondent of the *Scotsman*. Neither event is, I think, probable. If Mr. Bruce is to be removed, what is to be done with him? And if he were removed, is it likely that Mr. Stansfeld, a brewer, would be made Home Secretary, when the licensing question has got to be settled? True, he might give up the brewery; but that is hardly likely if the brewery be profitable, because that is permanent, while the Home Secretarship is not. I do not think that he would like to give up the brewery. I would not give it up; and I do not think that Gladstone will make a brewer Home Secretary.

A bride and bridegroom, Lord Penrhyn's daughter and Lord W. H. Seymour, son of the Marquis of Hertford, passed through here, Bettws-y-Coed, last week, on their way to a shooting-box not far off, belonging to Lord Penrhyn, to spend their honeymoon; and our little village was for the time in quite a flutter of excitement. We had arches all covered with laurels and ferns, and beautiful streamers thrown across the road, and flags flying, and mines fired, and the road lined with the natives, and the visitors hurrying and waving their handkerchiefs. A glorious sunshining, the mountains covered with trees just beginning to put on their autumnal livery, looking down upon us. My neat-handed Phyllis, as she was getting my breakfast, told me, in great excitement, that there would be four carriages-and-four, and such liveries! But at four o'clock the happy pair arrived in an open carriage-and-pair, with no attendants. Lord Penrhyn is not the Lord of Bettws-y-Coed. The land hereabouts belongs to the Dowager Lady Aveland, who inherited it lately from her brother, Lord Willoughby D'Eresby. But Bettws is in Carnarvonshire, and Lord Penrhyn is far away the richest and largest landed proprietor in the county. He is almost literally owner of half a shire, and he is very popular, though his son, at the general election in 1868, was beaten by a man quite unknown to fame. His Lordship is popular as a neighbour, but not as a politician.

NIAGARA.—A despatch from Niagara states that on Aug. 14, while some boys were swimming in Whirlpool Cove, below Niagara Falls, the bodies of two men were seen floating around in the circle of the whirlpool. After considerable exertion one of the bodies was secured by one of the strongest of the swimmers, who was secured against accident by a rope from the shore. The second body could not be secured, but the boys were near enough to ascertain that one of the legs had been torn off, probably by coming in contact with the rocks in the river. The boys say that for a number of days the bodies of a mother and her child have been floating in the pool, regularly encircling the cove with clock-like precision, and after plunging in the vortex reappearing again in the outer circle. Although the boys, who are daily found swimming in the cove, stoutly assert the presence of these bodies, little heed is given to them by the residents of Clifton. At all times of the day a number of boys from ten to fifteen years of age can be found bathing in this dangerous place. Often some of the more daring jump on the logs which are always found making the circuit and float clear round the pool, jumping off when they are brought near the land.

THE LATE JAMES RENFORTH.

MUCH excitement, both in England and America, but especially on Tyneside, has been caused by the sudden death of James Renforth, the British champion oarsman. This event occurred at New Brunswick, in consequence of an attack of congestion of the lungs brought on by over-exertion while rowing in the international four-oared race between the St. John crew (consisting of George Price, Samuel Hutton, Elijah Ross, and Robert Fulton) and the English crew (consisting of James Percy, Robert Chambers, Henry Kelley, and James Renforth), on the Kennebecasis River, New Brunswick. The match was for £500 a side, the English crew being allowed £200 for expenses. Last year the English crew, who won the great race on the St. Lawrence, near Montreal, were all Tyneside men. But this year, in addition to three picked Tyne men, Renforth took Henry Kelley, of Putney, the Thames sculler, over with him as one of his selected crew. The race was looked upon as a certainty for the English crew both in this country and America. The competing boats had gone about 200 yards along the course, and the English crew were half a length ahead, when Renforth seemed to falter and pull out of stroke. He soon began to sway from side to side of the boat, and his irregular rowing allowed the New Brunswick men to pass ahead. But he persevered, with fatal resolution and fortitude, till his boat had covered another mile, when the oar dropped from his hand. With a few words to his friend Kelley, he fell backward and became insensible. The boat made for shore, when the unfortunate man was landed, and was carried a mile and a half to Claremont House, the head-quarters of his crew. He was there attended by two medical gentlemen, but death took place within two hours. The suddenness of the attack and some words dropped by Renforth before his death gave rise to suspicion of foul play, for which, however, there seems to have been no foundation whatever, a thorough investigation by the local authorities showing that death had occurred from natural causes.

The body of James Renforth reached Gateshead, on Wednesday, by rail from Liverpool. The time of its probable arrival had been known during the day, and immense crowds assembled both at Newcastle and Gateshead stations, some uncertainty prevailing as to the place at which it would be deposited. The remains were in charge of Mr. Blakey, Mr. Barlow, and Mr. Oldham, and they were received at about a quarter of a mile from the station by the deceased's brother, and by several personal and professional friends, including Martin, one of the Tyne crew at Lachine last year. Thousands of people followed the cortége. The packing-case was removed, and a view of the features was obtained by those who accompanied the body to the house.

Renforth, who was born at Gateshead-on-Tyne, died at the age of twenty-nine. His career, unlike that of Harry Clasper, Chambers, or Kelley, extending over some years before they attained any high position as oarsmen, is but comparatively recent. His adoption of the oar wherewith to gain distinction dates back no later than 1866. When young he was employed as a smith's striker at many of the manufactures on Tyneside; but at the age of twenty-one he enlisted as a soldier, and served in the West Indies for some time. This occupation, however, did not find favour with Renforth's father, who took the earliest opportunity in his power of purchasing James's discharge from the service. Renforth then returned to Tyneside, and when the demolition of the old Tyne Bridge was commenced, in 1866, he obtained a situation as boatman, and for some time was employed ferrying the workmen from the shores to the ruins of that ancient structure. He was a splendid swimmer, and spent much of his time during early life in perfecting himself in the art—an example which all rowing men, at least, ought to follow. His first sculling-match took place in the early part of 1867, in an open boat. At the time when the powers of Robert Chambers, then champion of the Tyne and Thames, were visibly on the wane, those best acquainted with the rowing talent of the northern river turned to Renforth as the most promising successor of that renowned sculler. And they were not mistaken in their choice. On the Tyne, Thames, Wear, Ouse, Aire,



THE LATE JAMES RENFORTH, OF NEWCASTLE,
THE BRITISH CHAMPION OARSMAN.

Humber, Dee, at Leeds, and on every river where he appeared, Renforth vanquished all competitors, and with such consummate power and perfect ease that the question of the championship of the world was regarded as settled for several years to come. Between Kelley and the aspiring Tynesider a match for £200 aside and the championship of the Thames was arranged, and it came off over the Putney and Mortlake course on Nov. 17, 1868, when Kelley, who had been backed for a lot of money at odds on him, was beaten very easily—Renforth going away at an astonishing pace, securing a long lead at the outset, and rowing easily ahead of his opponent the greater part of the way. On Jan. 25, 1869, he and James Taylor rowed and defeated Matthew Scott and Andrew Thompson (their previous partners in four-oared races) in a pair-oared race for £100 from the High-Level Bridge to Scotswood Suspension Bridge; and on June 9, at King's Lynn Royal Regatta, Renforth won the championship of the Ouse, beating J. H. Sadler, of Surbiton, very easily. At the Thames Regatta, on Aug. 21 and 23, he won the champion sculls of £80, defeating Harry Kelley (second) and J. H. Sadler (third); but, with James Taylor, Thomas Winship, and John Martin, was beaten, through fouling some boats, by J. H. Sadler, J. Pedgrift, W. Messenger, and George Hammerton, for the champion fours. On Oct. 5 the late champion gave John Bright two lengths' start in a match on the Tyne, in James Hall's open boats, from the High-Level Bridge to the Meadows House, for £100. A foul

occurring, the referee ordered a race over on the following day, when the race was given to Bright on another foul. Dissatisfied with their defeat at the Thames Regatta, the champion crew challenged Hammerton's crew to a home-and-home match, for £200 a side each match. The first match took place on the Thames, from Putney to Mortlake, on Nov. 5, when Taylor, Winship, Martin, and Renforth easily beat J. H. Sadler, Henry Kelley, W. Messenger, and George Hammerton, for whom it had been regarded as a very good thing. The second match was brought off on Nov. 18, on the Tyne, from the High-Level Bridge to Scotswood Suspension Bridge, between the same crews, when the Tynesiders achieved another easy victory. On Nov. 20 he and James Taylor rowed Joseph H. Sadler and Harry Kelley a double-scull race on the Tyne, from the High-Level Bridge to Scotswood Suspension Bridge, for £200; but, after a splendid race, Sadler and Kelley, more accustomed to this kind of rowing, won cleverly by a length. Early in May, 1870, Renforth was matched to row Harry Kelley, and stake £100 to £80; but Renforth forfeited the money down. And his next great performance was at Lachine, Canada, on Sept. 15 last, when, with James Taylor, Thomas Winship, and John Martin, he won the international championship and a stake of £1000, beating the St. John crew, composed of G. Price, S. Hutton, E. Ross, and Robert Fulton, very easily. We have omitted to mention a number of regatta matches in which Renforth took part, his chief race before that which closed his career being the pair-oared match in which he and Kelley easily beat Taylor and Winship, on the Tyne, in February last. Renforth, we are glad to say, was of provident habits; and it is much to his credit that one of his first acts after winning the Thames Regatta race was to place himself under tuition and obtain a knowledge of those rudiments of education of which up to that time he was entirely ignorant. In this he showed considerable aptitude, and acquired, under the circumstances, a fair acquaintance with both reading and writing. He was of a very impulsive temperament, and given to express any strong feelings he possessed; but he was ordinarily a quiet, modest man, with social qualities which gathered round him a large circle of friends. He leaves a widow and one child—a daughter.

POTTERY AT THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

If there is one department of the International Exhibition more ubiquitous than another, it is that which goes under the comprehensive designation of pottery—pottery of all nations and pottery of every description. The variety of objects which present themselves in the different phases of the potter's art is almost bewildering, and they make their appearance at almost every turn. In order thoroughly to inspect the ceramic treasures in the Exhibition, the visitor ought to enter the building by the south-eastern entrance in the Exhibition-road. Turning immediately to the right, through a gallery hung with pictures that have overflowed, so to speak, from the Fine Art Department, the way lies through an open arcade to the south tower of the eastern main gallery, in which, on the ground floor, the pottery will be found. The gallery is divided into five rooms by incomplete partitions, and these rooms are numbered from 15 to 11 as we proceed northwards. In all the rooms, except No. 12, the objects are displayed in glazed cases, provided for the purpose by her Majesty's Commissioners. These cases are of various shapes and sizes, but all of them, except a few which are fixed to the walls or which project as screens, and which contain, as a rule, objects of minor interest, are so raised as to bring their lowest tier of shelves conveniently before the eye. The cases are of plain wood, blackened and varnished, and glazed with plate glass, and their shelves are covered with dark red cloth. They are ranged in two rows, with ample space between, and with just sufficient room to pass completely round them. The central space is covered by cocoanut matting, and the floor at the sides is stained dark brown and varnished. The wall on the outer or eastern side is hung with carpets, mostly of rich and sober hues; and the windows, which open upon the arcades of the Horticultural Gardens, are screened by unbleached blinds, having a sten-



POTTERY AT THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION : VASES BY MINTON AND CO.



INTERIOR OF THE NEW PALM-HOUSE IN THE WINTER GARDENS AT CHARLOTTENBURG, NEAR BERLIN.—(SEE PAGE 157.)

cilled pattern in dull yellow. The general effect of this arrangement is to afford a background on which the eye may rest gratefully, and from which the delicate and brilliant tints of the porcelain stand out in strong relief. The Commissioners having themselves retained entire control over the articles exhibited, the cases are not necessarily filled with the works of a single exhibitor, or even of a single country, but contain objects which it has been thought desirable to bring into juxtaposition on account of some harmony or some contrast.

Beginning with Room 11, we find on the right-hand side, next the entrance, a small collection of some of the commoner kinds of ware from the United States and Canada. Probably cheapness and unquestionable ugliness appear to be their leading characteristics, and the former may, perhaps, be the reason of their occupying so distinguished a position. Next to them, on the same side, are some examples of Indian manufacture, either wholly unadorned, or decorated in rough and simple fashion, but often with much grace of form and much harmony of colouring. On the right, and so placed that they might easily be overlooked, are some marvellous works in terra-cotta by the Watcombe Terra-Cotta Company, and chief among them a pair of small flower-baskets, filled with facsimiles in terra-cotta of the most delicate flowers—among others of the passion-flower—equal in execution to the finest carved work, and of the most admirable fidelity. Near these baskets are other works in terra-cotta by the same company, including a few busts and various small articles of use or ornament, and all highly creditable to the exhibitors. There is a group in the same material, "Titania and Bottom," in one of the cases exhibited by W. J. Wills, which also displays the adaptability of terra-cotta for statuettes and other decorative purposes. Passing on, the next noticeable objects are Maw's majolica wall-tiles, with various floral and other patterns; and beyond them are two pairs of vases and four slabs exhibited by W. J. Goode, and painted under glaze by himself. In an adjacent case will be found a collection of vases painted by E. Lessore, and exhibited by Wedgwood and Sons. There is also a good case of Belgian ornamental ware, boldly decorated with well-painted figure groups; and one large dish, with a desperately-contested battle scene at a bridge, is very remarkable. Near at hand a case is filled with Portuguese pottery of a somewhat grotesque character, and intended for purposes that it is difficult to conjecture. The most conspicuous object is a representation of a huge fish in a basket. Neither can be said to be ornamental, and the presence of the fish seems to prevent the basket from being useful. Around it are various vessels modelled after the shapes of fishes, birds, or animals, and the fishes are themselves beset by representations of parasites. A big duck has a little duck perched on her back, and so on. Many of these queer things have manifest lids, but it is hard to say what they are designed to hold. The material seems to be a coarse stone ware, and is highly coloured and brightly glazed.

In the next room, No. 12, there are no cases, and the room itself forms a passage way between some external sheds and the gardens. It contains uncovered stands, which support collections of huge flower-pots and vases of various kinds by Minton and Co. and other makers; and against one of the walls there is a superb tile mantelpiece, by W. B. Simpson and Sons, over which is a figure of St. Luke, also in tiles, on a background of gold mosaic. The next room, No. 13, contains a large collection of Messrs. Simpson's tilework, including several mantelpieces of great merit, and a very beautiful staircase, which is, unfortunately, set in a bad light. It contains also cases of fairy-like teacups, by various makers, in every conceivable pattern. Some, adorned by painted butterflies, have their handles formed like settled butterflies with their wings raised, instead of in the usual loop. In this neighbourhood Minton's breakfast service should be particularly noticed. Next to the cups come cases with tiny déjeuner sets—little china trays, with teapot, cream-ewer, and cups and saucers. Among these the sets exhibited by the Royal Worcester Porcelain Works are the most remarkable; and one of them, in Royal blue and gold, with a pearl ornament, is among the most beautiful things in the Exhibition. The services by Rose and Co. and R. P. Daniell are also highly meritorious.

In Room 14 attention should first be given to a case of Japanese china, which contains specimens of great beauty from their delicacy of manufacture, and from the exquisite taste of their colouring and ornamentation. They are of a simple and inexpensive character, and consist chiefly of small cups and bowls, often with a geometric pattern in blue, or with a fruit or insect in blue and gold, but with a certain air of cultivation and refinement about them which is very remarkable. There is one vessel, something like an egg-cup in appearance, but said to be a liqueur-cup in reality, made of the most delicate semi-transparent white porcelain, and ornamented with letters, figures, and filigree-work in gold, which is really a marvel of elegance and refinement. Next to this case is one containing a collection of Danish vases, some of them copies from the Etruscan, others ornamented by painted flowers and gilding upon a black ground, but all tasteful and well executed, and exceedingly moderate in price. Opposite to them stands a collection of vases, jugs, and other articles, by Doulton and Co., modelled in graceful forms out of common material. There is then a charming case by Phillips and Pearce, in which a candelabrum and a centrepiece in blue, white, and gold are particularly noteworthy. Towards the end of the room are cases with Wedgwood ware, among the most prominent objects of which are some statuary groups in black basalt, a copy of the Portland vase, and an exquisite déjeuner set in sage and white, ornamented with wreaths of flowers, and with the medallions for which Flaxman made the ware so famous. A few copies of Flaxman's original designs are to be seen, but they are for the most part indifferently executed when compared with older copies, such as may be found, for instance, in Dr. Sibson's well-known collection.

Room 15 is, perhaps, the richest of all, and it commences with Danish ware on each hand, china to the right Parian to the left, and with a statue of Hebe, in Danish Parian, on a pedestal in the centre. The Danish china is very beautiful, both in shape and decoration; and a conspicuous dinner service there would perhaps hardly be excelled in the Exhibition. The Parian has a certain dead whiteness of colour and chalkiness of surface which are not pleasing, and which contrast unfavourably with the works in the same material shown by Copeland, among which a centrepiece, representing the four seasons, is especially remarkable. In the same room is a case of Worcester enamel, from the Royal Worcester Porcelain Works. This is a pair of vases, and a chalice and ewer, in dark blue and gold, ornamented with scenes illustrative of the Norman Conquest, from the designs of the late Thomas Botts. In an adjoining case is a specimen of pierced work, a teapot, which, except two small vases, is the only example of this manufacture which we have been able to discover in the building. It is in both cases curiously misapplied. Pierced work originated in China, or probably in Japan, as an outer covering for bowls, so that they might be held in the hand when filled with hot liquid. Its application to a teapot, which has a handle, or to the body of a vase, which would be lifted by its neck, is, to say the least, an illustration of unthinking ornamentation. Next to this Worcester work are cases containing Prussian manufactures, notably a large wine-cooler in Parian, of bold design and clear, sharp modelling, but singularly free from any tenderness of sentiment. Opposite to it are vases, those next the centre of the room large and undeniably handsome, but somewhat flaunting; those next the window more sober and in better taste. Next comes a case of Irish porcelain, by M' Birney and Co., containing many pretty things of a kind familiar enough to all who frequent Regent-street, and one vase of Parian with Irish ornaments of decided merit. At the end of the room the cases chiefly contain wares of Minton and Co., and these are so varied and so beautiful as almost to merit a notice to themselves. Finally, in the last case but one, on the right-hand side, will be found a collection of specimens, contributed by Messrs. Goode and Co., which are examples of a very high class of art-decoration. The most noticeable objects in this

case are a pair of vases, a set of dessert-plates (bearing designs etched by Mr. W. J. Goode), and a dessert service, illustrated partly by some very charming landscape pictures and partly by figures from paintings by Sir Edwin Landseer.

The central path between the cases is here and there broken by pedestals, supporting vases or other large objects incapable of being overlooked, and therefore requiring no special notice.

Under the arcades of the Horticultural Gardens will be found a variety of works in coarser pottery—such as crucibles, drain-pipes, bricks, pans, and the like, which have no interest for any but manufacturers and dealers. There are also many specimens of terra-cotta for external decoration, some of which are of great merit. A cornice by Blanchard and an "Amazon" vase by Doulton deserve especial mention. In the same place will be found a copy of a cathedral window by Cawte, in the richly coloured Fairham brick, and a fine chimney-shaft by Gunton. Both Austria and Prussia contribute good terra-cotta external work; but the finest specimen is a fountain by Doulton and Co., placed on the outer side of the gallery, near the New South Wales annex. It is of pale tint, a character after which manufacturers have been striving, and which is perhaps, of doubtful advantage, very sharply and cleanly modelled. It was finished so lately that its various pieces had never been put together until they arrived in the grounds of the Exhibition. It is satisfactory to add that they fitted into their places without a fault.

GREAT MASS MEETING OF COLLIERS AT BARNESLEY.

On Monday the largest gathering of colliers that has ever been held in the north of England took place at Barnsley. Upwards of 10,000 persons, accompanied by more than twenty bands of music, walked in procession, with flags and banners, to the Queen's Grounds, where a public meeting was held, at which more than 20,000 were present. The chair was taken by Mr. Normansell, and amongst the speakers were Lord Elcho; Mr. McDonald, of Glasgow; Mr. Crawford, Durham; Mr. Brown, of Leeds, &c. The chairman stated that the South Yorkshire Miners' Association had paid during the last year to members for accidents, widows, and for other purposes, £6071 18s. 9d., the total expenditure having been £13,751 3s. 8d. The income had been £20,013 3s. 3d., so that during the year they had saved £6262. The following resolutions were carried:

That the members of this meeting, having heard the statement of the expenditure for the past twelve months and the increase of funds, together with the present state of affairs in the mining district of South Yorkshire, are of opinion that the association is in a prosperous condition, and rejoice to hear that the employers, managers, and workmen are (at nearly every colliery in the district) on good terms with each other, and express a hope that a proper understanding between the employers and their workpeople may always exist.

That the members of the association present at this meeting pledge themselves to use their utmost endeavours to extend the objects and principles of the association, and to carry out the new and revised rules at every lodge in the district.

Lord Elcho, who was received most enthusiastically, said he desired to express the great pleasure he had experienced in being present at their stupendous gathering that day. Two years ago they honoured him with an invitation to be present at a similar meeting, but he was then unable to be present. He was fortunate in having witnessed that day the grand procession, not so much from those composing it as from the appropriate mottoes on the flags, such as "God defend the right!" "Education for the young, and protection for the old!" "Education for the young, and protection for the old!" He was also glad to be present because he had been mixed up in Parliament with matters connected with the interests of the mining body, and he felt perfectly certain that the result of the meeting would make them better friends. Politics at such a meeting were said to be out of place; but for a member of Parliament to make a speech without touching upon politics would be the same as Pharaoh asking the Israelites to make bricks without straw, or making hare soup without having, according to Mrs. Glasse, first caught the hare. He would not enter into the question as to whether Mr. Gladstone or Mr. Disraeli were the descendants of an angel, nor would he go on to inquire whether they came from above or below. The noble Lord then alluded to the treatment he had received at the hands of some of the people of London, when his windows were broken because he dared to express his views in Parliament. A few days after that he went into Scotland, and there expressed his opinions on various matters, and was received in the most cordial manner by the mining body, for whom he proposed to do all he could in obtaining legislation so as to insure greater safety than at present. The remaining resolutions were:

That this meeting is of opinion the best way to prevent strikes and lock-outs is for the workmen to appoint deputations from their number to the employers and managers for the purpose of talking over any grievance complained of, with a view of settling the same in a friendly manner; and, should such a course of procedure fail to accomplish the desired object, this meeting earnestly recommends the question in dispute to arbitration previous to any strike or lock-out taking place.

That the miners of South Yorkshire, after eight years' labour, and at great cost to the association, in conjunction with the miners of the United Kingdom, to obtain better legislation for the protection of miners, feel deeply the injustice done to them by the Government not passing the Mines Regulation Bill through the House of Commons during the past Session; and this meeting, knowing the serious consequences resulting through the want of better legislation, strongly advise the miners throughout the whole country not to rest satisfied with any measure that does not limit the working time of pit boys to eight hours per day, a more efficient system of inspection, and a true system of weighting the coals sent to the surface by the miners. And, further, this meeting urgently recommends all miners, both in boroughs and counties, to impress upon the various members of Parliament representing them the necessity of supporting the miners' amendments to the Mines Regulation Bill, and to get the measure passed into law early in the next Session of Parliament.

THE OLDEST MAN IN EUROPE—The commune of Plainpalais, in the canton of Geneva, has the honour (says the *Swiss Times*) of counting amongst its inhabitants one of the oldest men living, not only in Switzerland, but very probably in any other country of Europe. His name is Jean Louis Chevallier; he was born in the island of St. Domingo, on May 11, 1765; he is consequently in his 107th year. He lived in St. Domingo till he was eleven years of age, when he was sent to Bordeaux to be educated, where he remained until he had attained his eighteenth year. He then came to Geneva, and was apprenticed to M. Désiré, watchmaker. At the time of the annexation of Geneva to France, in 1798, he was appointed secretary to the prefecture, which post he retained till the fall of the first Empire. From Geneva he was called to Bourg to perform the same duties, until in 1835 he was superannuated, at the age of seventy years, with a modest pension, which has never ceased to be regularly paid to him by the French Government. M. Chevallier is still in possession of all his faculties except his sight, but his body is reduced almost to a skeleton. Various foreigners who have lately visited him have been much struck by the remarkable clearness of his mind and the retentiveness of his memory.

THE METROPOLITAN CESS-POOLS.—Until within the last thirty years dumb-wells were the rule, and they existed by tens of thousands. With few exceptions every house had one; some houses had many. In the year 1848 the first Public Health Commissioners were located in Gwydyr House, Whitehall. There was at this time nine cesspools—"dumb-wells"—in the basement, and all full, as about the Christmas of 1848, the basement became flooded above the floor level, so revealing the mischief. Here was the first General Board of Health, legislating for the health of the country and directing the removal of nuisances, seated over nine dumb-wells choked full of putrid refuse. At this date there were also fifty-four dumb-wells in the substrata below the basement of Windsor Castle. The public will learn with satisfaction that these dreadful contrivances for poisoning the subsoil have been filled in, and so abolished, not only at Gwydyr House and at Windsor Castle, but in tens of thousands of other houses in the metropolis. It is, however, certain that thousands still remain, as every now and then the presence of an old dumb-well is detected—after a violent thunderstorm, for instance, or from some other surface flooding. Foul sewers and foul drains in London are the rule now, in spite of the six millions sterling expended on "intercepting and outlet sewers." The whole of Belgravia, Eaton-square, St. James's Park, and Westminster, down to the river, is a mass of stagnant sewage in ruminous, flat-bottomed sewers, swarming with rats, those rats being a sure test of the existence of sewers of deposit. It is the abundant street-surface ventilation of the metropolitan sewers and drains alone which saves London from an ever-present plague of typhus.—*Builder.*

THE EARL OF DERBY ON THE LAND AND GAME QUESTIONS.

LORD DERBY presided over the annual dinner of the Manchester and Liverpool Agricultural Society, held at Liverpool on Tuesday evening.

The noble Earl, in proposing "The Army and Navy," including all their various branches, said that while we were, as much as any community, ready to pay a full measure of honour and respect to success in war, whether carried on by land or sea, we were also apt in peaceable times to be a little hard on those who manage our naval and military affairs. We accepted cheap science and its application to war, all military preparations are far more costly than in any former age; and in our demand—our just, wise, and reasonable demand—for efficiency we were sometimes apt to overlook the fact that war was a thing by itself.

In proposing the toast of the evening—"Prosperity to the Manchester and Liverpool Agricultural Society"—Lord Derby said,—After setting apart all that can be required for that purpose, on liberal allowance, the fact still remains that we do not get, as yet, out of English earth one half of what we probably might with advantage if all our present resources were brought to bear on the soil. Mr. Mechi, who, as most of you know, is rather enthusiastic in this matter, puts the estimate much higher; but I don't want to overstate my case. No doubt there has been, and there is, great improvement. We hear talk, now and then, about the reclamation of waste lands, and it is endeavoured to raise a cry on that subject. Why, ever since I can remember we have been reclaiming our waste lands in Lancashire, without any fuss or noise about it, and in half a century we have pretty well succeeded in changing the face of the country; and if anyone complains that this process of improvement does not go on fast enough, they must remember that in the nature of the case where tenant-farmers are concerned it must be a gradual one. There are other besides economical considerations which affect us. We may wish that all our tenants had capital, and science, and energy; but I think that very few landlords would choose to lay it down as a principle that anyone not possessing these qualifications should be turned off a farm on which he and his fathers before him may have lived. We want to move on, but we want also, if possible, to move on together—to live and let live—not for a few to make fortunes and the rest go to the dogs; and I will add that if this work of agricultural improvement is to be carried on as it should be, it is the landlord, quite as much as the farmer, who must put his shoulder to the wheel. It may be said that he has not the capital required. Well, I believe that what is wanted from the landlord is much less that he should put a large amount of capital of his own on to the soil—though, of course, that is desirable—as that he should offer no obstacle to its being put on by the tenant. Security is the first requisite, and I hold that any tenant good enough to be kept permanently on the land ought to have a lease if he wants one. I say kept permanently, because there are, of course, cases where tenants are retained from kindly feelings, though not very fit to do justice to their farms, and in such cases the landlord may reasonably desire some check upon mismanagement. As to conditions of letting, they would vary in different places; but I have not altered the opinion which I expressed some years ago, that, as a rule, they ought to be few and simple. If a man is not able or willing to do the work he is in the wrong place, and would be better away, though I admit that in practice you cannot always act upon that view. If he is fit for his business he will probably do it best on his own way. Then there is that ticklish question of game—a word I am almost afraid of uttering on such an occasion, though I do not think I shall have anything to say upon it that can provoke controversy. I have always thought it a question which, with moderation and good sense on both sides, ought not to give trouble. Nobody can doubt that there is a good deal of over-preserving in England, and that in some places it has been carried so far as to amount to a public nuisance; and when that is the case, I hold that what is the fault is not the love of sport, but a love of ostentation and display, and it can hardly assume a more objectionable shape. We are told that there is to be some legislation on the subject. Now, personally, I am not a very keen sportsman, and I shall acquiesce heartily in whatever Parliament may decide; but I would just point out that it is possible for you to go so far as to defeat your own object. The absolute sweeping away of the power of keeping game on farms, however brought about, would, of course, imply under their changed conditions a general re-valuation for rents, and by that operation the tenant would certainly not be a gainer; while in other cases it might probably lead to this—the rich men, fond of their sport, and willing to make sacrifices in order to keep it, would take more and more of their estates into their own hands in order to enjoy their amusement undisturbed. That would not be an arrangement, I think, for the benefit of any party. One thing I think the tenant has in many cases to complain of, and that is the difficulty of making a fair bargain with his landlord where game is concerned; because, not knowing what the quantity of it will be, he cannot form an estimate beforehand as to the probability of loss. If that can be remedied—and I do not see why it should not be—I cannot see that there is any injustice or grievance remaining, so far as that is concerned. I ought to apologise for the length at which I am detaining you; but there is a far wider and graver question which many have for years past been discussing at public meetings, and which I do not like to leave entirely untouched—I mean the question of ownership of the soil. I have but little to trouble you with in regard to it, and I shall carefully avoid touching on anything that can be considered political ground. What I most wish to point out is the curious uncertainty as to the facts of the case in which we are, and the expediency of doing something to have that uncertainty removed. I have seen it repeated again and again that the whole soil of these islands is in the hands of less than 30,000 persons; but it is perfectly well known to everyone much interested in such matters that that assertion rests on a mere mistake—or the misreading of a statement made in the Census of 1861. In that Census only about 30,000 persons returned themselves under the head of landowners, the great majority who hold land having entered themselves, as they were free to do, under other designations; and the best proof of the fallacy of the figure is this, that 15,000 out of the whole so returned were women. Now, we know that half the land is not in female hands, and that probably not one tenth of our landowners, if so many, are women. I won't set you against guess, but, if I were compelled to do so, I should say you might multiply the figure I have given of 30,000 by 10 at least, and still be below the mark. Another fallacy, constantly repeated, which I can with similar confidence contradict, even from my own limited experience, is, that it is a very difficult matter for anyone to buy a landed estate, that land is so locked up that it cannot be brought into the market. Now, inasmuch as people having estates to sell are fond of pressing them on the notice of those whom they suppose may wish to buy, I have some personal knowledge of that matter, and I affirm with confidence that there is at this moment hardly a county in England where a man looking for a landed investment cannot find what he wants. If it were otherwise, we should have plenty of complaints from the capitalists of these parts; but the fact is, I believe, that at the present time there are, of the two, more sellers than buyers. We live in days of change. There are a great many people who prefer to have their property where they can, at a few hours' notice, move it to any part of the world, and that is a feeling more likely to increase than diminish. It may be the fact—I believe it is—that a man who wants only a few acres does not always find it easy to buy them; but if there is any real demand for small freeholds, surely it would be worth the while of speculators to buy up large estates as they come into the market, and to sell them again piecemeal. If that is not done, the only reason can be that it does not pay. Then there is another notion afloat, that estates are constantly tending to become fewer in number

in size. That is a point on which no man's observation is wide enough to enable him to speak with certainty; but it doubtless balances the other. Near great towns, especially near London, there is certainly, as a rule, more of disruption than of consolidation. My belief is—that I give it only as a thing which seems to me probable, not as a thing proved—that both large and very small properties are becoming fewer, and that the tendency to do so is more numerous. Poor landowners prefer to let their land to 2 per cent from land. They sell and go into business; and on the other hand, there is a limit beyond which men do not desire to extend their holding of what is only an unremunerative investment. But why should we limit this subject to mere speculation? Is it impossible to tell? Is a Domesday Book more difficult now than the days of the Conqueror? If what is called the land question comes to the front, as I suppose it will, surely we ought to meet it with as much positive knowledge as we can bring to bear. I am not insensible—no man who keeps his eyes open can be so—but the value, in a social point of view, of having a numerous class of men concerned in landowning. My contention is only that the supply of land in the market fully equals the present demand, and that the popular theory that it is so locked up that you can buy rests on no solid foundation.

FEARFUL COLLIERY EXPLOSION NEAR WIGAN. LOSS OF SIXTY-NINE LIVES.

ABOUT eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning a colliery explosion occurred at Messrs. Pearson and Knowles' Moss Pits, situated on Brynn Moss, in the township of Ince, and immediately closed the plot of land used as a cemetery for the borough of Wigan.

At the Moss Pits, which have been in working only a few years, the seams worked are the Wigan nine feet coal, which is about 100 yards from the surface, and the cannel, which is some hundred yards below; and these seams are drawn to the surface by a wench shaft—a party of sinkers being at present employed in the deepest working down to the Arley mine, which lies at a still greater depth.

At eleven o'clock the men in the Nine Feet and the Cannel were at work, and two sinkers were descending the upcast shaft to join their fellows below, when from the downcast came a blast like the discharge from a canon, followed by a terrible discharge of soot and smoke from the upcast, which lasted several minutes, and was scattered by the slight breeze over the adjacent fields. At the moment the cage, then standing on a raised platform, was jerked out of its position, and the brownman had an escape which greatly terrified him; while at the second shaft such a wreck was made of the gear that it is wonderful how the brownman there got free from the chaos. He did sustain severe bruises, and was taken home in a cart. In the wreck was found a cap, presumably belonging to one of the sinkers then descending the shaft. Along the poor people who had been alarmed by the report came numbers of the most practical men from the neighbouring collieries, ready to lend all the aid in their power, and many colliery managers willing to advise and direct. Messrs. Urimard and Hall, the owners, were also in attendance to lend aid, if necessary, to the miners.

Parties of workmen were at once employed at the upcast in fitting the winding apparatus in order, so as to draw up the hoppett, which still hung in the shaft. This was accomplished in about an hour and a half, and its arrival at the surface was anxiously waited by those who hoped against hope that the miners might still be alive; but the word was "empty," and there could be no further doubt of the fate of the men. The hoppett having been sent to the bottom and brought back again, three men entered, and were cautiously lowered to the cannel seam, whence it shortly returned with a cargo of five colliers, who announced, to the joy of many scores of anxious persons and to the sorrow of scores of others, that all was right there, and that the explosion had taken place in the Nine Feet. The winding of the men from the cannel was then quickly proceeded with, and all efforts were directed to the establishment of communication with the downcast shaft, by which alone the Nine Feet can be reached.

When the first exploring party descended the downcast shaft they found three men alive at the furnace, which is placed in an upper seam known as the Four Feet; they then descended to the Nine Feet, where were a number of dead bodies and several colliers alive, calling for water. These were sent to the surface and attended to, and the explorers continued their work, under the superintendence of John Brigham, mining engineer, and William Pickard, miner's agent. Pickard found the coal to be dry, so the extinguishers were sent down and buckets; but shortly afterwards the engineers on the pit bank were startled by a second and a third explosion of fire damp. At the greatest possible speed consistent with safety the cage travelled from the bottom to the surface, for the winding apparatus happily had not been damaged, and at the third journey all the explorers were safe above ground, though several had had very narrow escapes. A consultation was held, and it was decided to brick up the shaft, as there could be no doubt that all below were dead, and that there was the greatest danger in any further examination of the mine. The number sixty-nine, of whom sixty-two are colliers, day labourers, and drawers in the Nine-Freight seam, six are sinkers in the upcast shaft, buried beneath the débris, and one is a collier brought out alive, who died an hour or two afterwards.

ACCIDENT AT ST. MALO.—Among the passengers by the Jersey on Monday, Aug. 28, was a young Englishman, named William Francis, of about twenty-four years of age. Not speaking a word of French, he was somewhat at a loss on landing to what hotel he should go, when a French gentleman, who spoke English (M. Pâris de Gobhal), seeing his distress, approached him, and advised him to select the hotel where he himself stopping, at the same time offering to render him any assistance he might require. Mr. Forbes accepted this offer, and accompanied M. de Gobhal to the hotel, where he passed the night.

The next afternoon about two o'clock he went out, saying to M. de Gobhal that he was going for a stroll, and would be back to dinner about 6 p.m. He never returned alive. It appears that he decided on paying a visit to Chateaubriand's tomb, which, as every visitor to St. Malo knows, is on the Grand Bay, an island lying seawards a few hundred yards from the town, and accessible at low water by a paved causeway not more than a yard wide, and rising some two or three feet above the sea. After looking at the tomb, and loitering about the ruins that are scattered over the island, he descended the cliff with the intention of swimming. On reaching the causeway he found it had been covered by the rising tide, and that all around him was nothing but the sea breaking over the granite rocks with unusual violence. He hesitated for a moment on seeing this, but finding that the water was only up to his waist, although he could not swim at all, he proceeded to take off his boots and socks and to tickle up his trousers. People who were on the island, which in the afternoon is always crowded, perceiving his意图, shouted to him to stop, telling him that a boat should be put out that he had only to wait. Unfortunately, his ignorance of the language prevented his understanding what was said, and he boldly continued on the causeway into the water. When he had proceeded about half a mile, a gust of wind blew off his hat, and in endeavouring to recover it he lost his footing, falling from the causeway, where the water was shallow, into the deep water at the side. A cry of horror went through the crowd of spectators. Men rushed about wildly, gesticulating and shouting, only can get themselves in the moment of danger; ladies fainted and screamed, who had but a moment before been engaged in croquet or walking. The crowd, clinging with breathless anxiety to see him reappear, saw him rise above the surface of the water, his arms battled with the billow; however, soon struck him, and hurled him into still deeper water. Two inhabitants of St. Malo, well known in the locality as first-rate swimmers, dived into the water, but, owing to the violence of the billow, were unable to reach him. Nothing was left but to wait until the arrival of the body, which was found lying on a rock, and showing marks of having been roughly used by the waves. This sad accident has cast a gloom over the town.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS NEAR SLOUGH.

ABOUT a year ago, when the intense drought had become a matter of serious concern to the agricultural world, a letter from a well-known Scottish farmer describing a system of irrigation with pure water, under which very remarkable results had been achieved in various trials in Scotland, appeared in the newspapers. This plan, the invention of Mr. Isaac Brown, of Edinburgh, was at the time we speak of being introduced over twenty acres of land at Stoke Park, near Slough, the property of Mr. E. J. Coleman, and we have had submitted to us a report giving statements regarding the year's operations on this ground, showing results which cannot fail to arrest the attention of farmers and proprietors of land.

Stoke Park, where those operations have been carried on, is one of the most ancient deer parks in England, and its splendid domain and palatial residence are full of interesting historical and literary memories. The "ivy-mantled tower" of Stoke Pogis, which Gray has immortalised, is in its midst, Elizabeth spent a part of her life in the manor house, and in other ways the scene is one of distinguished memories. While the park itself boasts of grand old oaks and immemorial elms, its present possessor is taking such steps as will make it, perhaps, not less remarkable in connection with modern agriculture than it already is as an example of ancient forestry. Since Mr. Coleman became its owner, about eight years ago, he has spent large sums on the improvement of the home-farm buildings and in raising the system of cultivation to the highest standard of modern agriculture, using the steam-plough and all the leading implements of the day by which the art of cultivating the soil has been advanced. The deer park of Stoke extends to about 570 acres, and the arable portion of the estate to about 350 acres. The soil of the latter is chiefly composed of a silicious clay, slightly calcareous, and liable in dry weather to become crust-bound from the absence of loam mould. It is rich in the constituents of a productive soil, and it will be seen from the succeeding narrative that the system of irrigation of which we are about to speak is peculiarly adapted to counteract that liability to become crust-bound which all clayey soils possess.

The mode of irrigation consists in throwing pure water over the soil in the form of a rain-shower. The apparatus by which this is accomplished is in a form nearly as permanent as the land itself, and so disposed as to be liable to no injury, the whole being underground. It may be noticed that a comparatively small quantity of water suffices to provide against loss by evaporation and to keep the land in temper. The principle of the invention is to throw as much water over the ground each night as shall enable growth to proceed without interruption, the artificial rain being, of course, withheld when there is a natural rainfall. In practice a series of dry days following wet ones do much harm, for the plants will not grow when the soil gets crust-bound and the roots are stuck fast in the earth. Temper the soil with moisture, and growth may go on uninterrupted from March to November. Not less important in this invention is the liberal application of manure, which can be successfully and profitably made. In the tables given below, showing the returns from the land irrigated by this mode and from the adjoining land (identical in character) left unirrigated, this is shown with singular clearness. Upon the former manure to the value of £13 10s. per acre was applied, yielding a bountiful return; upon the latter the expenditure for manure was £3 per acre. The fact of the spring having been comparatively wet rendered the latter investment profitable in some degree, but otherwise this top-dressing applied to the unirrigated land might have been money simply thrown away.

The course of operation at Stoke Park, as described in the report, was the following:—On Sept. 5 last irrigation was commenced with a temporary engine, the land having been top-dressed with the British Rivers Irrigation Manure. The application of showers was continued each night, and notwithstanding the lateness of the season, the soil being dried up and vegetation having disappeared from the surface since the previous June, on the twenty-third day from the first watering a thick-set growth of about 9 in. of superior feeding-grass was produced, and by the middle of October it became a large crop, which was cut and used for stall-feeding. The irrigated land was then grazed with sheep till the end of the year, while the adjoining pasture remained unproductive. The cut grass and the value of the grazing are estimated at £5 an acre. In the spring operations were not resumed until the last week in March, and from five to six weeks of the best spring weather were thus lost. Notwithstanding this, a very large crop of hay, chiefly perennial rye-grass, was cut in the second week of May, the yield per acre being stated at 2½ tons of hay. Watering being resumed, a second crop of perennial rye-grass of a large growth was ready for the scythe in the second week of July. This grass showed a yield of 12½ tons per acre, or equal to 2½ tons of hay. Since that period growth has gone on unchecked upon the irrigated land, the ratio of production being considerably more than in the same length of time in the earlier months of the year.

In chronicling this rapid and wonderful growth of grass we may remind our readers that only last year the average yield of hay in the south of England did not exceed a quarter of a ton per acre, while there were thousands of acres which could not be cut because there was nothing upon the land. At Stoke Park 120 acres of hay land yielded no return, while this year there have been already 200 tons obtained, of which the twenty acres of irrigated land have produced nearly the half. Had this been a dry year, two-thirds of the yield at Stoke Park would have been obtained from the irrigated land. It would thus appear that the system of irrigation so successfully adopted there is not one calculated to suit a dry year only, but that in the wettest weather it presents advantages which will double the produce. By tempering the soil between wet and dry weather, and by regularly utilising manure on the surface, growth is made a continuous process throughout the season, and the harvest reaped is largely increased.

The following is a statement of the year's product upon the irrigated land, and also upon the adjoining unirrigated portion of the estate:—

IRRIGATED LAND.—COST OF PRODUCTION PER ACRE.		
Interest upon plant, at 5 per cent	£1 10 0	0
Superintendence and fuel	1 10 0	0
Top-dressing with British Rivers Irrigation Manure, September, 1870	2 10 0	0
Top-dressing with London horse and other dung spread on the surface; ten loads, at 16s.	8 0 0	0
Top-dressing with British Rivers Irrigation Manure, March, 1871	1 16 0	0
Do., May, 1871	1 4 0	0
Cost of making first and second crop of hay	2 10 0	0
Total cost of production	£19 0 0	0

VALUE OF PRODUCE PER ACRE.		
First crop of grass and grazing, autumn, 1870	£5 9 0	0
Spring crop of hay, 1871; 2½ tons, at £7	17 10 0	0
Summer ditto; 2½ tons, at £7	17 10 0	0

Less cost of production		
Balance in favour of produce per acre	£21 0 0	0

Upon the unirrigated land the yield and cost of production were as follow:—

VALUE OF PRODUCE PER ACRE.		
Produce June to December, 1870	no value.	0
Hay crop, May, 1871; 1 ton, at £7	£10 10 0	0
Hay crop, July (one fourth of the irrigated crop of 2½ tons), at £7	4 7 6	0

LESS COST OF PRODUCTION.		
Top-dressing British Rivers Irrigation Manure, February, 1871	£1 16 0	0
Ditto, May, 1871	1 4 0	0

Making first and second crop of hay		
£5 0 0	0	0

Balance in favour of produce per acre		
9 17 6	0	0

The unusually high price of hay obtained this year necessarily

enhances the result as given in the above figures. It is, however, to be remarked that, as already noticed, six weeks were lost at the beginning of the season (through delay in fixing the permanent engine), and that no estimate has been made of the growth since July. Taking the average price of hay for five years at £4 10s., and adding the value of the growths in the periods referred to, the report estimates the produce of the irrigated land at £35 per acre. It will be remarked that the actual cost of the London manure applied to the soil is higher than it should have been; and, making all these allowances, it will be apparent that the results of the year are unexampled and prepare us to learn that Mr. Coleman is now introducing this valuable system of pure water irrigation over the whole pasture land upon his estate. This extension of the system increases its profitable character, as the same engine-power and the same superintendence hitherto used for twenty acres will suffice for a largely increased area. The estimate of the inventor is that the cost stated in the above table at 50s. per acre would be reduced fifty per cent with an area of one hundred acres, while with 500 acres the cost of fuel and superintendence need not exceed from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per acre.

AMNESTY MEETING AT DUBLIN.—ANOTHER RIOT.

A SECOND political prisoners' amnesty demonstration took place in Phoenix Park on Sunday, as arranged. There were about 7000 people present. There were no bands nor banners, and, with the exception of a profuse display of green ribbon and laurel leaves, there were no designating insignia exhibited. From the first to the last not a policeman appeared in the park. The constables usually on duty at the people's gardens on Sundays were not to be seen. The demonstration took place on the Fifteen Acres, and the assembly looked very small on the vast plain at about an hour after the time announced for the holding of the meeting. Mr. Smyth, M.P., Mr. Butt, Q.C., and several other leaders drove up in hackney carriages, which subsequently served as platforms for the speakers.

Mr. Smyth, M.P., who took the chair, addressed the people at some length. He said they had met now, as they did on Aug. 6, to vindicate law. They now took possession of their freehold with the sanction of the law, and with the aid of the Constitution. He would not be there if the meeting was to defy constituted authority or perpetuate ill-feeling between the people and the police, or give offence to any one. The surrounding circumstances precluded the soldiers convicted of Fenianism from having an impartial trial. These prisoners should have been the objects of exceptional leniency rather than the victims of exceptional law. Let the case of the military Fenians be laid before the present Commander of the Forces in Ireland, and the meeting would abide by the result. Referring to the Manchester men, Mr. Smyth said they went forth in a public road in open day to give honourable battle for the rescue of their chief. No base, no sordid motive actuated them. On the contrary, they obeyed the noble impulse that could inspire the human breast. Sergeant Brett fell not by the assassin's bullet, but as a soldier falls in defence of his flag. All morality, ancient and modern; all civilisation, Pagan and Christian; and the conscience of mankind, the noblest instinct of the human breast, attested that the Manchester rescue was a deed of heroism. If the prisoners were criminal, then he too was a criminal, because, with the exception of taking human life, he had done as they did. He concluded by relating a circumstance connected with the rescue of John Mitchel, to which he referred without shame or reproach.

Mr. Butt then spoke. He argued that the amnesty, to be satisfactory, should have been general. He said that the misgovernment and coercion which could never trample down Ireland would, if continued, lay the British crown in the dust. The other speakers were persons of no importance. The following resolutions and petition were adopted:—

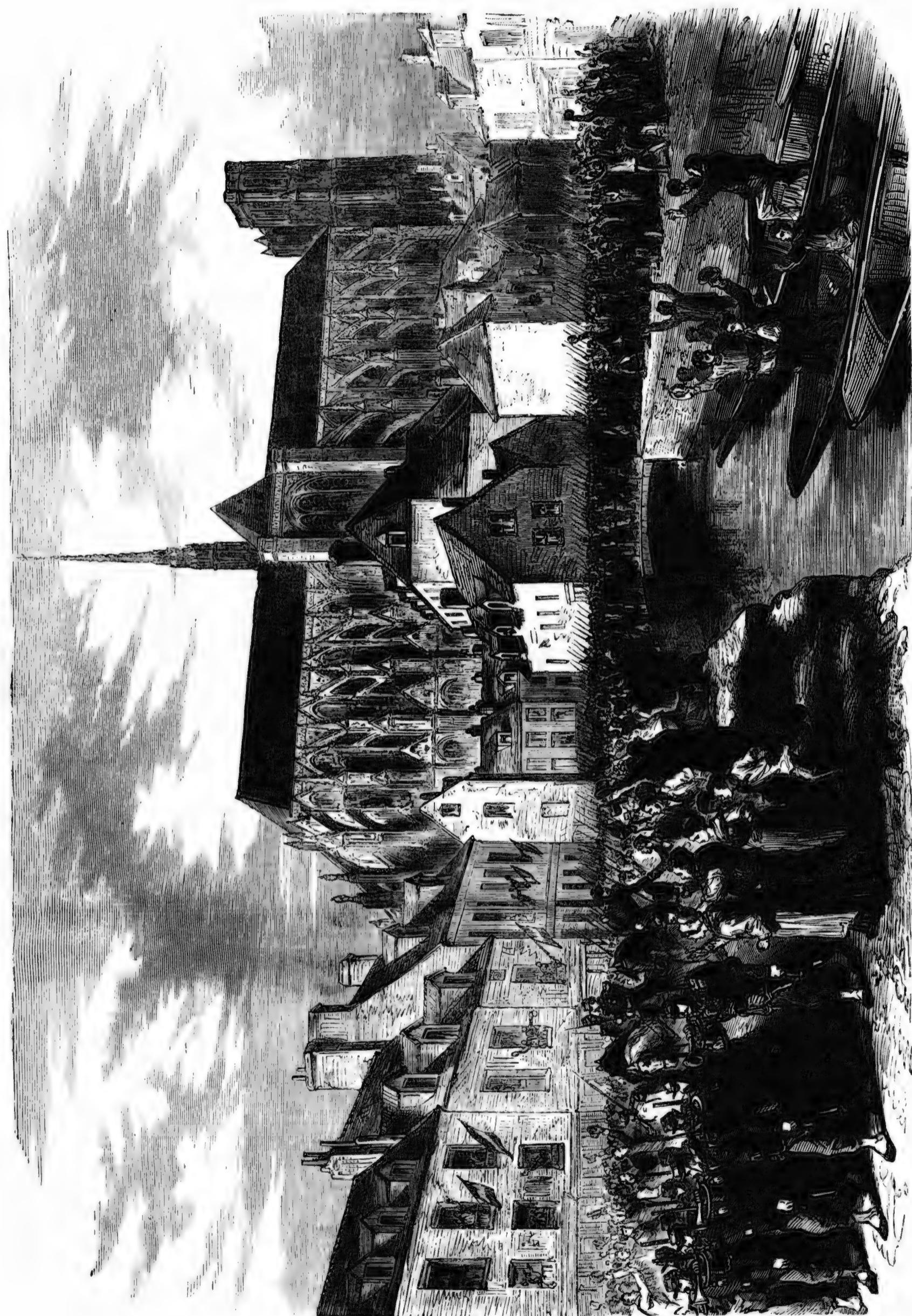
That we, the people of Dublin, in public meeting assembled, feel it our duty to represent to her Majesty the Queen the universal wish of the Irish people that the amnesty already granted to so many political prisoners should be extended to all who are still undergoing punishment for political offences.

That the distinction sought to be made between soldiers convicted by court-martial and civilians convicted by the civil tribunal has no real or true foundation, as the law teaches that the duty of allegiance is equally binding upon all; and that there is no reason for regarding the rescue of a political prisoner at Manchester in any other light than that of a political offence; and that while there be classes of prisoners who are still detained in penal servitude the amnesty for political offences cannot be considered as general or complete.

That the following address to her Majesty be adopted, that it be signed by the chairman on behalf of the meeting, and forwarded for presentation to her Majesty in the usual way.

MEMORIAL TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

The humble petition of the people of Dublin, adopted at a public meeting held in Phoenix Park on Sunday, Sept. 3, 1871,



ENTRY OF FRENCH TROOPS INTO AMIENS AFTER ITS EVACUATION BY THE GERMANS.

RE-OCCUPATION OF AMIENS BY FRENCH TROOPS.

SATURDAY, July 22, 1871, will ever be memorable in the annals of Amiens, for on that day French soldiers once more took possession of the city, after the hated Germans had quitted it. The latter having taken their departure, two battalions of the French 33rd Regiment of the Line arrived by special train, and took formal possession of the town, and were most enthusiastically welcomed by the inhabitants. Our Engraving shows the troops passing the bridge of Amont, near the cathedral, on their way to the citadel, and will convey a vivid notion of the lively scene displayed. The *Journal d'Amiens* states that orders reached there on Friday afternoon, July 21, and that a French officer arrived to arrange the surrender of the citadel. At five o'clock next morning the Germans were on their march en route homewards, to the great joy of the inhabitants, and doubtless to their own satisfaction. There will be a great question, it is thought, whether the citadel of Amiens will be maintained. Fortified by Henri IV. to withstand a very different description of warfare than that of the present day, it has, on more than one occasion, proved hurtful to the town rather than a protection. In the hands of an enemy it is an engine of the greatest power, for it completely dominates the city, is almost proof against attack or assault, and with provisions a very few score of men can keep the whole population in order by threats alone. Thus it was that when Amiens was taken in November last General Manteuffel was able to withdraw all his troops, leaving by comparison a mere handful of men to guard the rich cathedral city, which was ordered to supply rations every morning at the gates, under pain of being fired upon. In the

possession of French troops even such a power is harmful; for no French General would be justified in destroying the town, even though it were filled with an enemy's soldiery. There are more fortresses of a similar kind in France, of which the same thing may be said, but Amiens is an especial example.

Rouen and Péronne were evacuated early on the same day. At the former place the streets and theatres were illuminated in the evening, and the chimes of the silver bell, which had been dumb since the occupation, again tolled the Angelus, while the welcome sound of the French drum was cheered by the inhabitants in the place of the German clarinets. The "fighting 40th" entered Amiens in advance of the 8th Corps d'Armée Prussien, after three hard days' fighting in all the gloom and mud of rainy November, amid the profound mourning of the inhabitants and closed shops and houses everywhere. But a few days afterwards Generals Manteuffel and Von Goeben entered Rouen without a blow in cold wintry weather. What a contrast to their entry must this march out on the early July morning have been! One can hardly judge whose joy must have been greater—the men who were returning home or the inhabitants who were once more free.

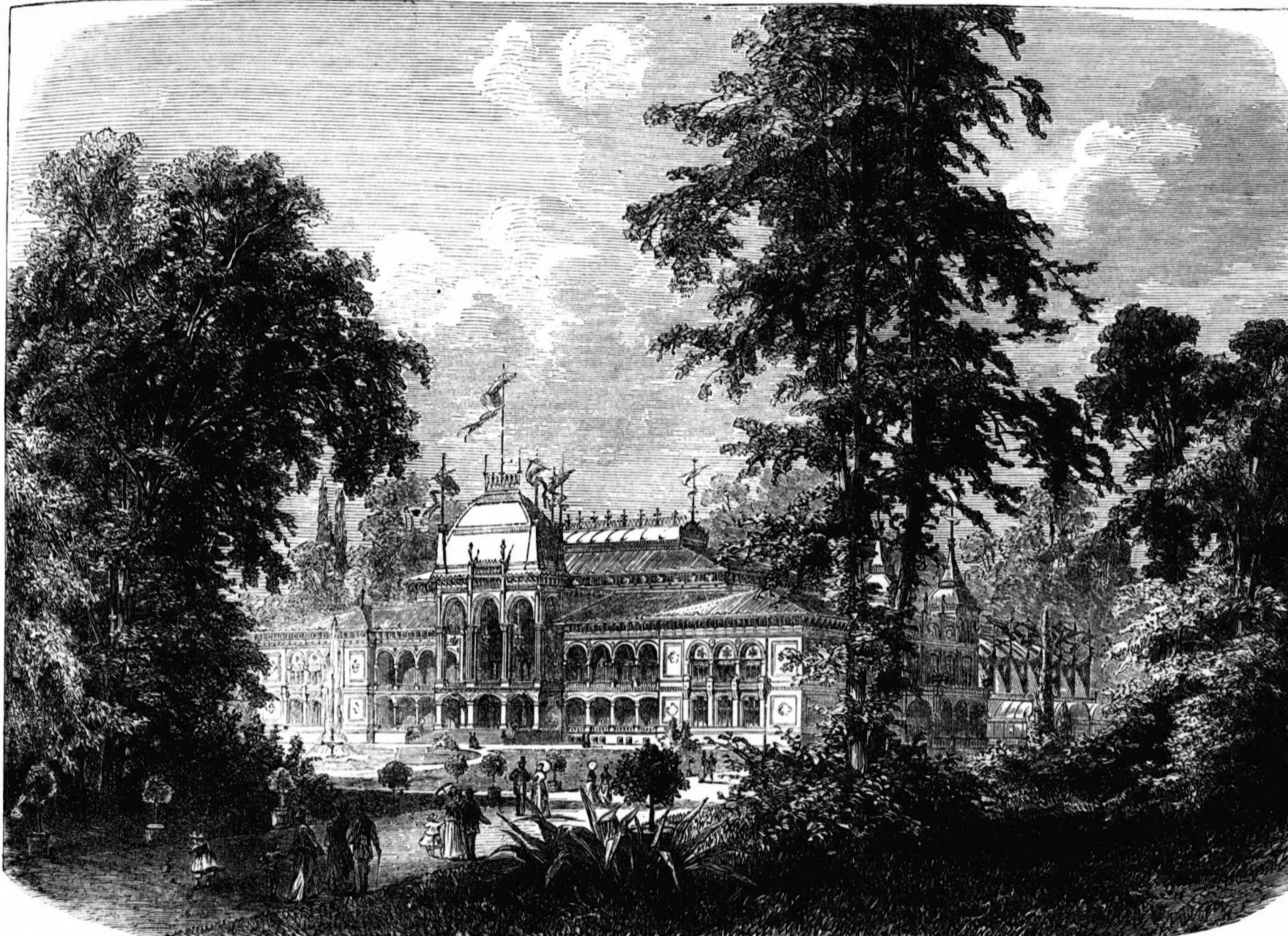
THE WINTER GARDEN AT CHARLOTTENBURG.

BERLIN, hitherto known as the dullest and plainest (not to say the ugliest) city in Europe, is following the usual course of all Prussian belongings, and is slowly but surely becoming a great and even a fine capital, which will surely attract visitors as soon as greater facilities are afforded for tourists and other birds of pas-

sage to fit about it and see quickly the numerous interesting objects it contains. Probably the gentleman who has already familiarised cockneys with Paris, and who long ago projected excursions which have successfully taken quiet parties to the Pyramids and organised picnics in the Great Desert, will next season turn his attention to the capitals of Northern and Southern Germany; and then we shall all begin to wonder why we had previously thought so little of the Prussian capital, and had reserved all our admiration for the Austrian.

Assuredly when that time comes we shall find that Berlin has made gigantic strides; has acquired new palaces, new streets, and new monuments, while it has gone on improving its former attractions in accordance with the rapid march of events that have given it so conspicuous a place in Europe.

Among those resorts which are the especial pride of the Berliners the Winter Garden at Charlottenburg is not the least important, and the citizens may well be proud of it. As the Linden is the great promenade, the delight of every day's assembly in the open air, so the Tiergarten—the park shaded by fine old trees—is the scene of holiday pleasures. This breathing place, just outside the Brandenburg-gate, is but half a mile in breadth and some two miles long; but it is divided into two unequal parts by the Charlottenburg-road. On the east portion of the north side is the Königsplatz, where to the east is to be seen the Palace Kaczyński, with its picture-gallery. On the west side is the establishment of Kroll, the great entrepreneur, with its theatre, monster concerts, and amusements of all kinds; and beyond this are the so-called Zelte, or Tents, also places of popular resort, where the Berliners make merry in their stolid fashion.



EXTERIOR OF THE NEW PALM-HOUSE AT CHARLOTTENBURG, NEAR BERLIN.

Charlottenburg commences near the western extremity of the Tiergarten; and in the same direction, three quarters of a mile off, is the Royal château of Bellevue, to which visitors, however, are not admitted.

At the south-west end of the Tiergarten, about twenty minutes drive from the Brandenburg-gate, is the Zoological Garden, an extensive and well-planned establishment, with a tasteful garden and a capital collection of animals. The Hippodrome adjoins it, and in the vicinity, as well as about the Tiergarten, a fine neighbourhood full of handsome streets has been formed. Near the Zoological Garden, too, there are the celebrated concert-rooms and folks-gardens—the Moritzhof, Albrechtshof, Hofjäger, and others, as numerous as the establishments for providing shrimps at Greenwich.

Charlottenburg, now a town of 12,000 inhabitants, extends nearly to the western extremity of the Tiergarten. It was originally a village, which had sprung up around the château of the Electress Sophia Charlotte, erected in 1696. The garden of the château contains a mausoleum, reached by descending from the orangery and going through an avenue of pines. This is the burial-place of Frederick William III. and his consort. Their monuments are very remarkable as the masterly work of Rauch.

The Botanic Garden, however, is the greatest attraction of all this quarter, and a reference to our Illustrations will indicate how grand a collection is to be found there. It is entered from the Potsdam-road, near Schöneberg, and is of considerable extent, as may be inferred from the fact that it contains eighteen hot-houses and 16,000 different species of plants, while its palms and cacti collected in the magnificent palm-house, represented in our Engraving, is, perhaps, unequalled in Europe. This vast palm-house is, in fact, the latest great addition to the capital, and the people who resort to the large dining-halls and concert-rooms of the locality (which are themselves called "winter gardens") will not fail to appreciate it, though at present the garden is only open to the public on Fridays, strangers, however, being able to obtain admission on other days.

ROME RENOVATED.

A LETTER in the *Times*, dated Rome, Aug. 29, says:—

"To-day everything is perfectly quiet, and as busy and animated as usual. Rome at the end of August busy and animated! Pray do not think I am suffering from the much-dreaded Roman fever, and writing during an access of delirium, but remember that I am writing of the present capital of Italy, which already shows a life and energy and an activity that would surprise any of your readers who know what Rome used to be in the month of August. Locomotion on wheels is in many parts of the city almost impossible, except at foot pace, and the number of people in the streets during the cooler hours of the day is such as would make a fair appearance even in Oxford-street; also during the hottest hours, when the whole city used to fall asleep, there is now as much traffic and bustle as I have often seen during the season at the busiest time of the day, if there ever before was such a time in modern Rome."

"From ten o'clock a.m. till dark the gardens of the Pincio are thronged with gaily-dressed people, while a double file of carriages lines the drive which extends down to the Popolo and along the Corso; and, to prevent confusion from the number of equipes, it has been found necessary to oblige those going down the Corso to diverge into the Piazza Colonna, that they may turn without blocking. From eight to ten every evening a band of one of the regiments of the Line or of the National Guard plays in the Piazza Colonna, which then becomes the fashionable promenade of the citizen class, though the number of people generally makes promenading a matter of difficulty. Along the side of the piazza occupied by the Palazzo Chigi several rows of chairs are placed for the use of those who think the convenience worth two sous; the price would often rise to a premium if the tariff did not limit it. These open-air evening concerts have turned out so great a success that the Piazza Colonna is found altogether too small for the accommodation of the people. To remedy this, within the last few days another evening promenade and band has been instituted

at the Piazza Navona, which it is only due to Pius IX. to remember was rescued by him from its use as a vegetable market, repaved, and converted to its original condition of a handsome piazza. The open-air theatres, which used to maintain a precarious existence, are now well filled every afternoon. There are three in full favour—that in the Mausoleum of Augustus, called the Core; the Politeama, or Ranella, in the Trastavere; and the Sferisterio, at the Quattro Fontane. At the last-named there is at the present moment a very good circus company, of which most of the riders and clowns are English. While the wealthier class has its drives on the Pincio and Corso, the bourgeoisie its bands and promenades, the *popolani* enjoy their festas in the Prato del Castello. This is altogether a new institution. The fields between the Castle of St. Angelo and the riverside—the same where Cincinnatus was found at his plough—have been converted into a kind of Roman Vauxhall; a large dancing-booth, floored and roofed, but open to the air, has been erected, with its orchestra; in the centre and grouped about the limits are trattorie, lemonade-booths, and wineshops (which in Italy do not imply intoxication), all gaily decorated, and bearing names which are a curious jumble of paganism and aspirations of Young United Italy mixed up together. There are a good many trees about the place, making shady alleys and nooks, lighted up at night with coloured lamps. Here the people resort in the evening, after the Ave Maria, crossing the river by the ferry at the Ripetta; and the place seems to be greatly enjoyed. They sit about in groups drinking their *fiaschetto*, or eating their *frittata* or *spezzatina*, and finish the evening with dancing and singing. On Sunday, taking advantage of the bright moonlight, they kept it up merrily till midnight.

"Such is Rome during this present August of 1871, in what is supposed to be the unhealthy season of the year. There is plenty of good hard, steady work and business going on during the day, and the whole day, as the streets crowded with vehicles and with people, not sightseers, testify; and after working hours the people, high and low, amuse themselves freely, having cast off that sulky

kind of reserve which those who knew Rome previous to 1848 tell us commenced at that time.

"The tumble-down old modern Rome of other days is rapidly passing away. Cobwebs during the last few months have formed a large item of export, and the dust of ages that has been cleared away from the fronts of the palaces and houses is something incalculable. The fine old palaces of the sixteenth century, which used to look so grand and massive, and yet so shabby and decayed, are now scarcely recognisable. Many of those built of travertine have been cleared and restored, those of brick stuccoed, repaired, and painted in stone-colour fresco. It is only now that one sees how much the architectural beauties of the city were hidden under the mass of dirt that incrusted them, and one is surprised how many buildings are worth stopping to look at which never attracted one's admiration before. One of the earliest acts of the municipality was to issue an order against people keeping their houses in that wretchedly dirty and neglected condition wh ch has been so long the custom, and fixing a date by which, to begin with, every house in the Corso was to be put into a proper and decent state of repair. That date has lately passed; the majority have obeyed the order, but some have not; consequently a second decree has been issued naming a further day, after which those who have not put their houses externally in order will have it done for them by the authorities, and be charged with the expense. That order, which has been made imperative for the inhabitants of the Corso, has voluntarily been obeyed by numbers in other parts of the city, and it is remarkable how much that was depressing in the aspect of Rome has passed away."

MUSIC.

THE 148th meeting of the choirs of Gloucester, Worcester, and Hereford Cathedrals began at Gloucester, on Tuesday morning, under the direction of Dr. S. S. Wesley. It can hardly be necessary to state that these festivals are no longer merely meetings of the three choirs. Years ago they outgrew local importance, and acquired a national value by the engagement of great artists, vocal and instrumental, and by the production of works of the highest class. Latterly, however, a "dead set" has been made against them by some of the clergy, and especially by the capitular body of Gloucester Cathedral, on the ground that the use of a sacred building for musical performances, even in the cause of charity (the festival supports widows and orphans of poor clergymen), amounts to desecration. There is no arguing with this conviction, seeing that it is based upon a matter of feeling; but many will be glad that, up to the present, clerical influence has been powerless for mischief against the festivals. The spirit of opposition, however, is not dead; and it must greatly have animated Canon Tinling, who accepted the invitation to preach the festival sermon, and used his opportunity to make a bitter attack upon the whole affair as at present conducted. The Canon would have a festival mainly consisting of religious exercises, and from one point of view there can be no objection to the course he advocates. But whether the charity could exist upon the contributions of a few people attending local special services is another matter, and we would not advise the managers to put it to the test.

The musical proceedings of the festival opened, on Tuesday morning, with a performance of Handel's "Dettingen Te Deum," "Jephthah," and Mendelssohn's "Hear my prayer;" the whole being preceded by the overture to "Esther." To give adequate effect to these works, Dr. Wesley had engaged a capital London orchestra, headed by M. Sington; a really admirable chorus of 250 voices or thereabouts; and such principal singers as Mdlle. Titiens, Madame Patey, Mr. Vernon Rigby, Signor Foli, and Mr. Lewis Thomas; with, in the second rank, Miss Harrison, Miss Martell, Mr. Bentham, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Brandon. The means were adequate, yet the general effect fell far short of what it might have been under a conductor accustomed to his work and a system which permitted more rehearsals. To speak the plain truth, the performance, both in the morning and in the evening, when Part I. of "The Creation" and a selection from "Israel in Egypt" were given, was exceedingly indifferent, and strongly urged the necessity for a radical reform in the management of the festival. Of course, many of the solos gave satisfaction; but some were absolute failures; while Dr. Wesley's peculiar ideas of *tempo*, and his unfamiliar beat combined to sink the choruses, generally speaking, below criticism. Happily, the audiences on both occasions were small, and shortcomings did not greatly signify; but it may well occupy the minds of well-wishers to the festival whether something cannot be done to stave off failure for the future.

On Wednesday Gloucester put on an appearance quite in harmony with festival proceedings, notwithstanding dull and rainy weather. The streets were early crowded with visitors from the country round, and the nave of the cathedral speedily filled with persons eager to hear the second great attraction—Mendelssohn's "Elijah." Music so well known was expected to be well done; and an immense advance upon the work of the previous day soon became apparent. "Elijah," in point of fact, was given with fair success; the soloists especially exerting themselves as though determined to make their mark. Madame de Wilhorst, Madame Patey, Miss Martell, Mr. Bentham, and Signor Foli were heard in the first part; the second bringing forward Mdlle. Titiens and Mr. Vernon Rigby. A word must be said in praise of Mr. Bentham, who sang "If with all your hearts" in style the excellence of which was only marred by undue forcing of the voice and a slight want of animation. The other and better known artists acquitted themselves as usual. In the evening a secular concert took place at the Shire Hall, "Acis and Galatea" and a miscellaneous selection comprising the programme. On Thursday Bach's "Passions-Musik," Mr. Cusins's new oratorio "Gideon," and some excerpts from Spohr's "Calvary," were given in the cathedral; another secular evening concert following it in the Shire Hall; and on Friday the festival ended with a performance of "The Messiah."

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—We hear but little of British Columbia, and the Report of 1870, by the Acting Colonial Secretary, Mr. Good, on the condition of the colony is acceptable. He states that the yield of gold in 1869 was quite proportionate to the mining population. The quantity known to be exported was of the value of £417,873 dols.; to which must be added about a million for gold shipped by private hands, gold sent out from Kootenay and the southern boundary, and gold remaining in the country: making a total of 3,417,873 dols. The area of the known gold-fields has been considerably extended, and now reaches from the forty-ninth to the fifty-third parallel of north latitude, running over a belt of from 100 to 200 miles wide. In 1869 the first quartz-mill was erected at Cariboo, chiefly with the view of enabling discoverers of leads to test the value of the rock. The Acting Secretary is of opinion that a wide field lies open in this direction for utilising to enormous profit idle capital; but this era has not yet arrived for British Columbia, and the development of the country drags along with weary halting steps. The yield of the Nanaimo coal-mines in 1869 was about 40,832 tons. The anthracite of Queen Charlotte's Island is equal to the Pennsylvania for furnace purposes; but properly to develop and work the mine would require an outlay of £100,000. The export of spars and lumber reached a value of £50,885 dols. in 1869. The productions of the colony have to fight against a large import duty in the only neighbouring market; while the coast of Bellingham Bay and the lumber of Puget Sound enter San Francisco free of duty. On confederation with the Dominion of Canada, one of the first subjects of attention must be reciprocity; another must be ready communication with Canada by wagon road, open all the year through, and then by railroad. Without this, confederation would exist only in name. There were in 1862 23,765 cattle in the colony, and 11,846 sheep. The grass of the country is admirably adapted for fattening cattle. Wheat and other cereals ripen readily, and return sordid less than forty bushels to the acre. Remunerative prices are obtained both for the grain and for the meal manufactured from it in the colony. The population, as estimated from the magisterial returns, is stated at 10,496, exclusive of natives; 1917 are Chinese; but many roaming miners, traders, and fishermen are overlooked. The Indian population is variously estimated at from 30,000 to 50,000. The Acting Secretary maintains that the country only requires opening up, and a fair chance of securing population and capital, to become highly wealthy and prosperous.

BARNET FAIR.

THE old "Country Fair," which the late Mr. Robson and many other comedians both before and after him have turned to such good account, is reproduced every year at Barnet. On Monday, in spite of the persistent rain, there were all the old features, including, we regret to add, the old cruelty, the old brutality, and the old rascaldom which appear inseparable from an indiscriminate assemblage of vendors of horses and cattle. Each of the three kingdoms seemed to have contributed its quota of two-footed black sheep to Barnet, and many of the scenes on the high road between the station and the little town, and on the fields and waste grounds appropriated to the fair, made one long for the power of inflicting some punishment which should be summary and sharp. Does the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals know what goes on at Barnet? If it does not, its agents and officers are inefficient; if it does, we are at a loss to know why action is not taken to bring the more flagrant offenders to justice. We venture to say that for several hours on Monday afternoon there were few minutes during which wanton and outrageous cruelty was not inflicted on dumb animals with ostentatious publicity. The police did what they could to check the violence of the brawny scoundrels engaged in torturing ponies and horses on the hill-side, but they were few in number, and the latter did practically what seemed right in their own eyes. What this was it is difficult to describe without appearing to exaggerate. The horse fair is held in certain spacious fields to the right of the road from London, and before the town of Barnet is reached. You descend a bank, cross a railway in course of formation, climb some stout railings, and are among the canvas refreshment-booths which line this side of the inclosure. Here are the old names, familiar to the frequenters of racecourses and other open-air festivals held in the neighbourhood of London. Since the decline of pugilism as a profession, the noble art of self-defence appears, in many cases, to have paved the way to the noble art of licensed vice, and the names on several of the drinking-booths were of former heroes of the ring. These establishments appeared to be all well conducted, and to be driving a busy trade. Men who were quarrelsome, or men who betrayed a disposition to be amicably demonstrative in their cups, were quickly taught that outside the booth was the most congenial place for them; and we may dismiss the eating and drinking tents with the remark that the discipline and good order preserved there were very surprising when contrasted with what was going on at their doors. Let it be understood that there was no lack of respectable men at this portion of the fair. The number of gentlemen farmers, stout tradesmen, yeomen, agriculturists of every degree, and dealers of repute was considerable; and there were many fine horses which were fairly treated, and looked in excellent condition. It was the screws, and the small Welsh and Irish ponies, which roused one's pity, as the vile crew by which they were surrounded did one's indignation. To the ponies first. Many of them are not much larger than a Newfoundland dog, and they stand in solid groups of a dozen or so, some haltered together, others kept in position by constant beating and by sheer fright. The orthodox mode appears to be for these ponies to stand in a circle, of which their heads form the centre. Their owner is a Welsh or Irish drover or salesman, who gives instructions to his confidential subordinates in the language of his country. He vaunts their excellence in English at the top of his voice, and from time to time, at the request of a possible customer, or in the hope of tempting some one in the crowd, orders a particular pony out. Half a dozen men immediately fasten on it, and drag it by main force from the herd. Pulling it backwards by the tail was a favourite method; while its ears were pinched, its head buffeted, and its legs twisted by other hands. Over and above the drover or owner and his country helpers was an unlimited supply of ragged "odd men" from London (the scourings of Whitechapel and Seven Dials—the lowest type of costermongers' help), who were armed with bludgeons, which they brought down heavily on the poor little brute's back and head, generally from sheer wantonness, and to the manifest hindrance of the business in hand. Let the London reader picture to himself the repulsive blackguards he has seen hanging about a racecourse, or aiding and abetting at a street fight in a low neighbourhood; let him recall the most ill-favoured and least honest-looking crowd he has ever avoided or been hemmed in by, and he will recognise the class who were in their glory at this part of the proceedings at Barnet. There were always six or eight men to every horse or pony dragged out. Some carried tawdry flags of pink or blue calico on poles with which to frighten the animals in matador fashion; and while two of these ran at its sides, waving their banner and poking the unhappy beast with its staff alternately, two more followed it with sticks, labouring it without ceasing, while other two pulled at its rope halter and dragged it viciously up and down the hill or among the bystanders. Besides these there were some amateur torturers who took up a convenient position for a passing blow, which they inflicted with so much relish as to make one think of all that moralists say as to the appetite for cruelty growing by what it feeds on; others who shouted merely, and others who contrived to make up for the want of other weapons by the vigour with which they kicked with a hob-nailed boot at the poor brute's side. As a matter of course, an unbroken pony from the wilds of Ireland affords considerable sport when subjected to this treatment for the first time. One pretty little creature, gracefully formed, nearly black, and with large, intelligent eyes, after plunging violently to free himself from the halter, and launching out with its hind legs, stumbled and fell, and tried to remain on the ground; whereupon it was lifted up by its tail and ears and dragged off in the manner described. This went on all day. Another pony had its neck wrenched at to make it jump over a high fence until it endeavoured to obey, when it fell or was pulled down, and rid itself of its misery and its life by breaking its back!

The wretched horses which were galloped up and down the hill while fit for the knacker's yard than a stable, the belabouring and tail-twisting of cattle, which went on unchecked in road and field, and the calm acquiescence in it all among the lookers-on, are things to be remembered to the discredit of the authorities. Let us repeat that there were plenty of horses on sale which were not ill-used. But this was a matter purely for those who had them in charge. Impunity is given at Barnet to mal-treatment of every degree; and what this leads to will be understood without further particularisation by all conversant with the nature of the London rough, and who know that this fair is one of the places at which he has special delight in holding saturnalia. It must be anxious work this week for the people who have taken houses at Barnet for the sake of quiet and for the lovely scenery by which it is environed. Do they send their plate to the banker's; and, if not, is there a silver spoon left on the premises when the anniversary is over? What about tramps, too, and back doors, and hen-roosts? To drive through the staid and cleanly little town, and to then return to the mass of rampant rowdyism brought to its outskirts, made one ask in what Barnet differed from other places that it should be punished once in every twelve months thus. The genuine "country fair" element was to be found in the hollow on the opposite side of the crowded main road to the fields set apart for horses and cattle. There was plenty of the old fun here. A handsome young Jewess in a fashionable nankeen dress played the part of "Cheap Jack," and talked as loudly and rapidly—ay, and drove as brisk a trade—as any male professor could have done. "Silver spoons, spoons which will sweeten your tea without any sugar, and forks, silver forks, which will fill your stomachs when you've nothing to eat—twelve of each of them for a pound, for ten shillings, for five, for three, for two, for sixpence, and they're yours! Twenty-four silver articles for sixpence!" The genuine jewellery, the work-boxes from Japan, the costly ornaments, were all sold rapidly to the grinning crowd. Further afield was a fine array of shows, and all the row and clamour which have been part and parcel of fairs from time immemorial. Merry-go-rounds, swing-boats, gilded gingerbread, gingerbread nuts, waxworks with the latest horrors

added, peepshows with truthful representations of incidents in the Franco-Prussian war, a sparring-booth, a duck with four legs, a hairy man, more peepshows; a circus with the performing pony exhibited on the platform outside, not performing certainly, but giving proof positive that he was alive, and might be expected to perform presently; a tent of mystery, with a pretty child on view number of people had paid twopence each; men doing the half-crown trick; shooting-galleries; more merry-go-rounds, and dissolving view to the happy people who visited the pleasure fair. Among these were genuine rustics, and many women and children who stared, marvelled, and enjoyed. In short, this portion of the strange festival being held at Barnet is an accurate reproduction of all that we associate with the words "country fair," and as such is worth a passing glance.

The other features we have touched upon call strongly for investigation, and for suppression or reform. All the useful characteristics of a large meeting for the sale of horses and cattle might be preserved, if necessary; but in the name of public decency let the disgraceful proceedings which were common on Monday, and which have been common at Barnet Fair for years, be put down with a strong hand. They belong to another and more brutal age, and are a standing reproach to all who have the power of making them impossible in this.—*Daily News*.

SUPPRESSION OF PIRACY ON THE MALAY COAST.

IN June last a trading-vessel was plundered of specie, and the crew and some passengers murdered by Chinese pirates, who took refuge in the river Salengore. By a treaty of Aug. 20, 1825, the fourth article provides that "The King of Salengore engages not to permit any pirates to resort to any part of his territory." The present Rajah Mahdee has for some time disregarded this treaty and set us at defiance. After writing letters upon this matter, to which no replies were given, her Majesty's ship Rinaldo, Captain Robinson, and the Government steamer Pluto, conveying Mr. Skinner, the acting magistrate and Judge of the province of Wellesley, a proficient in the Malay language, as Government Commissioner, proceeded to the Salengore river. First Lieutenant Stopford, with Commander Grey, R.N., and Mr. Skinner, went in the pinnace, with a crew of twenty-five men, to the south bank of the river. They, landing under the height of the Bukit Salengore, advanced to the stockade built there, and met Rajah Syed Massahor on the steps, supported by his armed retainers. The Rajah then held an evasive conversation, through the Commissioner, when suddenly the Malay guard rushed back into the fort, in a sort of panic, followed, as fast as he could run, by the Rajah. No threat of any kind had been offered. The sailors were at once directed to fall back a little, and it was proposed that the First Lieutenant and the Commissioner should go into the stockade by themselves to discuss in a friendly way the matter of restoring the property stolen and surrendering the pirates. The Rajah refused. It was then proposed that Mr. Skinner should go in alone; this also, he refused, and fortunate it was he did so, for Lieutenant Maude, having gone in the cutter with a small crew to the opposite bank of the river, towards the residence of Rajah Mahdee, by whom he was at first received in a friendly way, was with his crew, upon a supposed signal from the Rajah, suddenly and treacherously fired upon and attacked. The Lieutenant received a cut on the wrist, and more than half his men were wounded—one, William Horton, mortally. Upon hearing firing, the First Lieutenant and his party rushed to the assistance of the cutter. One of the wounded seamen claims to have shot the Rajah Mahdee, and others declare they saw him fall. Captain Robinson sent the Pluto to Penang for reinforcements, and at daylight of July 4 anchored the Rinaldo about 400 yards from the forts, which immediately opened an effective fire, striking the hull of the ship in three places, cutting her rigging, and wounding three men. In a short time, however, the accuracy and skill of the ship's gunners silenced the batteries. On the evening of the 5th the Pluto returned with a reinforcement of twenty-five men of the Royal Artillery, under Lieutenant Shephard, and one hundred men M. N. I., under Colonel Shorthand, who, at daylight on the 6th, effected a landing under the protection of the ship's guns, and carried the forts, destroying this stronghold of piracy, and capturing twenty-eight guns. Nothing now remains to be done but for the Commissioner to ratify the success by arranging matters with the new Rajah on a secure footing. The account having been sent by telegram to England, the official reply contained a message from the Queen to the Lieutenant-Governor of Penang, "requesting to know how her wounded seamen were going on," which being read to them in hospital greatly cheered the men.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—On Thursday a meeting of this institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Sir Edward Perrott, Bart., V.P., in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read, rewards amounting to £73 were granted to the crews of different life-boats for recent services on the occasion of shipwrecks on our coasts. During the past month the life-boats had saved forty-one lives, besides contributing to the rescue of four vessels from destruction, and many of these services were of a very gallant character. Other rewards were also granted to the crews of shore-boats for saving life from wrecks on the shores of the United Kingdom. Payments amounting to £370 were also made on different life-boat establishments. The Independent Order of Oddfellows (Manchester Unity) had forwarded £50 as their annual contribution in aid of the maintenance of their life-boats stationed at Cleethorpes. The late Edward Leeves, Esq., of Venilee, who had been a liberal contributor to the funds of the society, had left it a legacy of £100, free from all deductions. New life-boats had been sent by the institution during the past month to Bridlington, Yorkshire, and to Thurso, N.B.; and it was also decided to form a life-boat establishment at Greystones, in the county of Wicklow. Reports were read from Captain J. R. Ward, R.N., the inspector, and Captain D. Robertson, R.N., the assistant inspector of life-boats to the institution, on their recent visit to the coasts. It was stated that the safety-fling-boat improvements introduced by the institution had been adopted in the majority of the fling-boats on the Scotch coast, and that few boats are now built without being partly decked. The proceedings then terminated.

MOORGATE STREET STATION.—From the 1st inst., when the London, Chatham, and Dover Company first ran their trains into the Moorgate street station, that terminus, for the present, will serve for the traffic of six companies—the Metropolitan, the Metropolitan District, the Great Western, the Great Northern, the Midland, and the London, Chatham, and Dover companies. The Chatham and Dover Company added sixty trains in and out to the day's work, which brings the number of trains using the station to a much higher figure than at any other station in London, the trains received and dispatched at Moorgate-street being now above 1000 per day. Divided management in the conduct of such an extraordinary traffic would, as regards control of points and signals, inevitably prove fatal, and is accordingly wisely left by the companies interested in the hands of Mr. Myles Fenton and his responsible assistants, who direct the whole of the trains entering and leaving the station. The new station of the London, Chatham, and Dover Company at Moorgate-street consists of a single line, with a platform on each side. This is the same accommodation as is provided for the Midland and the Great Northern companies. The booking-office accommodation provided by or for the Chatham Company is better than that shared by the other five companies, but that is not saying much. The attentions paid and the services fairly due to passengers arriving at the station by cab or other carriage greatly need to be improved and increased. There is no station entrance in London more infested by disreputable characters than that at Moorgate-street, now a terminus used by comparatively "long-journey" travellers, in addition to the passengers by the underground line, who have not usually much luggage. A better attendance of railway servants at the entrances to the booking-offices would save money and avoid discomfort to travelers. New services are rarely conducted with precision and punctuality from the commencement. The cause of a lurch in the forenoon was not attributable to the Chatham Company, but to an unforeseen accident to a Great Northern train engine, which failed at Aldersgate station, and had to be dragged off the ground. This delayed the traffic for a time, but in other respects it was conducted with regularity and precision. The eastern extension of the London, Chatham, and Dover from Blackheath-hill to Nunhead would have been opened on Sept. 1, also, it was expected, but the opening has been deferred for a short time, to enable the contractors to finish the works more completely. The eastern extension will give a communication between the south side of Greenwich and the Crystal Palace, Clapham Junction, Victoria station, Ludgate-street, and nearly forty other railway stations.

AN ALLEGED FASHIONABLE SWINDLER.

A FASHIONABLY-DRESSED young woman, who gave the name of Florence Cowper, residing at 6, Gloucester-place, Regent's Park, was, on Wednesday, placed in the dock at the Marylebone Police Court, before Mr. Mansfield, charged with obtaining a gold opal ring from Mr. Joseph Gower, a jeweller, of 9, Crawford-street, Marylebone, by means of false pretences. Mr. Scarth, solicitor, attended for the prosecution; Mr. Pain, solicitor, defended; and Inspector Austin, D. division, watched the case on behalf of the Commissioners of Police. Evidence as to the borrowing of £20 from Mr. Benjamin, a tailor in Mayfair, having been repeated,

Christopher Scott, Botcherby, a manager to a nurseryman living at Botcherby, near Carlisle, said he was the father of the prisoner. She was placed by Lord Dandona in a high-class school at Derby House, Bayswater, about eight years ago. Lord Dandona placed her there as the Hon. Miss Gray. He (witness) did not know whether she had any right to be called the Hon. Miss Gray. He was not present when she was placed there, but the schoolmistress told him. The prisoner is his real daughter, and not his foster-daughter. He had never seen Lord Dandona. He wrote a letter to Mr. Thomas, the secretary of the Society for the Reclamation of Fallen Women, and the contents of that letter were true. He left her in London with her mother about thirteen years ago. She was then carrying on the business of a dressmaker and milliner at Victoria-grove, Brompton. He knew she had been married three times. Cross-examined by Mr. Pain: He had heard it stated that she had represented herself to be his foster-daughter. He could not say if she had any reason for saying so. Some fifteen or sixteen years ago several persons said she was not his daughter, and his wife was very much annoyed about it. She was known in society as the Hon. Mrs. Cowper. She married a gentleman of the name of Joseph Robert Baylis, who had between £7000 and £8000 per annum. He believed Baylis was a relative of Lord Dandona. She had her cards printed the Hon. Mrs. Baylis. Her husband died and left her the whole of his fortune, and she would have had it had she not met with Mr. Cowper. She had been known to the world as an honourable. She had also married a Mr. Baily and Mr. Scott, and had kept up the honourable. He had reason to believe she was entitled to property, and he was in correspondence with a Mr. Rankin, a solicitor, of St. Andrew's-square, Edinburgh. He knew she was to be presented to the Queen as the Hon. Mrs. Baylis. Mr. Baylis was a gentleman-at-arms to the Queen. He saw a letter from Mr. Baylis, requesting her to come to London to be presented. He believed £20,000 was coming to her. Re-examined: He had read a report of a divorce case against her. Mr. Baylis had a detective in his house watching her. Sir Benjamin Pine was not her uncle on his (witness's) side. Mr. Pain addressed the magistrate for the prisoner, and asked for her discharge. It was absurd to suppose that Mr. Benjamin gave her the £20 because she called herself an honourable. Anyone could adopt that title, if it was a title at all; and it was preposterous to suppose that he parted with his money on her statement. He only lent his money on the faith of having £5 interest.

Mr. Mansfield said it was a case that he should send for trial. He then cautioned the prisoner that what she might say would be given in evidence against her. The prisoner said she should reserve her defence for a higher tribunal. Mr. Mansfield committed the prisoner to the next Middlesex Sessions for trial, and, on the application of Mr. Pain, consented to take two sureties in £100 each for her appearance. Mr. Scarth said he should not prefer any other charges at this court, but would bring them forward at the Sessions, and give notice on the other side. The prisoner, who seemed to feel her position acutely, was then removed to the cells.

REMARKABLE RELIGIOUS IMPOSTURE.
(From the "Melbourne Argus," July 15.)

ONE of the events of the month has been the disclosure of a remarkable case of religious imposture, occurring in the agricultural district of Nunawading, situated about thirteen miles from Melbourne, which culminated in the arch-impostor—a pretended Messiah—being prosecuted for obtaining money from one of his dupes, himself the cutspaw of a rival Messiah. We have had among us a small religious community known as "Christian Israelites," founded by one John Wroe, who pretended to be prophetic and possessed of pseudo-divine powers, which latter were somewhat less credited when, in 1863, he paid the debt of all flesh and disappointed those who believed in his immortality. The doctrines he taught were, in effect, that the second advent, when God's promises to Israel would be fulfilled, was at hand. To this end it was necessary that there should be a great "ingathering of Israel"—namely, of the lost ten tribes who had misbegotten with the Gentiles. These could only be got together by the operation of the Divine Spirit filling the hearts of his chosen instruments in the work of collection. Consequently the Christian Israelites claim to be those whom spiritual revelations have shown to be of the seed of Abraham, and their leaders indulge in spiritual visitations, trances, visions, and the interpretations of dreams. Laughable as it may seem, some of these impostors actually profess that they can perform miracles and heal diseases, which pretensions they support by the flimsiest testimony. As to healing diseases, they have, it seems, found out how easy it is to say, "Be thou healed;" and, if the event does not come off, to have an opportune vision which satisfactorily explains the failure. Scandal has pointed to darker practices by this sect—to obscene rites and systematic concubinage; but these things have not been made quite clear. To proceed. About the time John Wroe was dying one Fisher, a farmer and charcoal-burner at Nunawading, laid claim to be regarded as his successor, and off-red proof of his having been divinely chosen and spiritually influenced. He went so far as to bring witnesses ready to testify to his command a hot wind had changed into a cool one, but the moribund prophet declined to receive them, and Fisher was refused an audience. He then returned to Nuna-

wading, where he was surrounded by a few believers in him as divinely inspired. Having failed in getting himself acknowledged by the larger sect of Wroites, he devoted himself with the more ardour to his little flock, which was dubbed the "Church of the Firstborn," and whose doctrines were similar to those of the Christian Israelites. Shortly after Wroe's death one of his followers, named Bignell, who had also set up to be Wroe's successor, but whom that confraternity failed to recognise, went over to Fisher, and became a preacher under him. Another such preacher was one Andrew Wilson, whose intellectual power and capacities for imposture were by no means equal to those of the other two. In truth, credulity was his forte. It should here be mentioned that almost all the members of both these sects belong to the ignorant classes; that Fisher is utterly illiterate, and Bignell and Wilson not much better. Matters went on thus for some years till squabbles arose. Bignell laid claim to powers incompatible with Fisher's supremacy, and upon the latter failing to cure one of Wilson's children, which persisted in dying, the father began to doubt whether his patron was really Christ, for it seems plain, in spite of subsequent denials, that Fisher used to tell the more foolish of his believers that he was possessed of the spirit of Jesus Christ in a literal sense. It is difficult to make out from their jargon of semi-scriptural phrases what these poor people mean, but they have certainly got into a habit of regarding each other as divine, or half divine, as the case may be. Thus Wilson addressed Fisher in letters as "most revd. and holy lord," while Fisher claimed to have struck down his mother-in-law (who died of a paralytic stroke) for want of faith in him. At last Bignell made up his plans to try and depose Fisher, and eventually induced Wilson to aid him to a certain extent. Then scandals began to go abroad. Fisher was declared to be living in concubinage with his wife's sisters, with having children by each in turns, and with justifying such conduct by declaring himself "David, King of Israel," and entitled to similar privileges in respect to concubines. Whether these accusations are supported by evidence has not yet been shown, nor that Fisher is truthful in recriminating that Bignell and Wilson had both been disgraced and excommunicated by the "Church of the Firstborn," for "tampering with ladies," and "inconsistency" (which is the Church jargon for "incontinency"). Beyond all question such charges and counter-charges are rendered the more credible by the peculiar relations existing in the social circle of these people. The final coup came when, avowedly to expose Fisher, Wilson summoned him to the Oakleigh Police Court for obtaining money under false pretences. The case caused considerable excitement, and the court was crowded to hear the revelations that were expected to be made. Then the old story of imposture and credulity, as told above, came out in all its sickening details; but, of course, the Court could only deal with the money part of the transactions; so the scandals about the women were not put into a much more defined shape than before. However, the specific charge against Fisher broke down utterly. He had received "offerings" from Wilson, it was true; but there were cross accounts between the two, for Wilson had had money from Fisher for which he never accounted. Besides, as the magistrate said, the law could not protect such fools as Wilson, who gave the money voluntarily, believing that Fisher was the Christ, although he could adduce no clear proof that Fisher even clearly represented himself as Christ. In fact, Fisher denies now having ever set up any Divine pretensions. At all events, the case was dismissed, and the exposure was complete, notwithstanding which the "Church of the Firstborn" and the community of "Christian Israelites" continue to prosper, while the Protestant Christians among us are continually besought to send more missionaries to the heathens in foreign lands.

OBITUARY.

LORD CHURSTON.—The death is announced of Lord Churston, Brixham House, Devonshire. The deceased nobleman, better known some twenty years ago as Sir John Yarde Buller, is succeeded in his title by his grandson, the Hon. J. Yarde Buller. Lord Churston was sprung from a family well known for many generations in Cornwall and Devon, the first of the ancestors mentioned by Sir Bernard Burke being Richard Buller, of Tre-garrick, who died A.D. 1555, having married a cousin and co-heiress of the Courtenays, Earls of Devon. His grandson, Sir Richard Buller, of Shillingham, was High Sheriff of Cornwall and M.P. for that county in the reign of Charles I., as was also his grandson, Francis Buller, of Shillingham, a little later. From Sir Richard descended the Bullers of Morval, a younger son of which house, Sir Francis Buller, the friend of Lord Mansfield, was a Judge successively in the Courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas, and left, at his death, in 1800, the highest legal reputation for his knowledge of jurisprudence; and his work on trials at Nisi Prius is a standard text-book to the present day. He was the grandfather of the nobleman just deceased, who was born in April, 1799, and was educated at Oriel College, Oxford, where he took his Bachelor's degree in 1819. He succeeded to his father's baronetcy in 1833, and not long afterwards was returned to Parliament, without opposition, as one of the members for South Devon, his colleague being Lord John Russell. He continued to represent that constituency without interruption down to the year 1858, when his long Parliamentary services were rewarded by a peerage, conferred on him at the recommendation of Lord Derby. In the Lower House he was not a frequent speaker, but occasionally he took an active part in political affairs. Thus, for example, towards the close of her Majesty's first Parliament he moved a vote of want of confidence in the Whig Ministry of Lord Melbourne, which, though he failed actually to carry it, helped to hasten on the dissolution of 1841, which for a time destroyed the hopes of the Liberals, and prepared the way for the advent of Sir Robert Peel and the Conservative party to place and power. In 1846, when Sir Robert Peel gave in his adhesion to the principles of free trade and the repeal of the corn laws, the late peer remained firm in his adherence to agricultural protection. Lord Churston was an active magistrate

and Deputy-Lieutenant for Devonshire, and one of the Special Deputy-Wardens of the Stannaries, and he was for many years Lieutenant Colonel of the South Devon Militia. His Lordship was twice married—first, in January, 1823, to Elizabeth, daughter of the late Colonel Thomas Wilson-Patten, M.P., of Bank Hall, Lancashire, which lady died in February, 1857; and, secondly, in April, 1861, to Caroline, third daughter of the late Sir Robert William Newman, of Manhead, Devon, and again became a widower in November, 1866. **SIR JAMES PENNETHORNE.**—Sir James Pennethorne, F.I.B.A., died at his residence, Worcester Park House, Malden, Surrey, on the 1st inst. "Debrett" states that Sir James was the son of the late Mr. Thomas Pennethorne, of Worcester, and was born in 1801. The deceased gentleman was an eminent architect, and was Surveyor to her Majesty's Works, and to the Commissioners of her Majesty's Woods and Forests, by whom he has been continuously employed since 1832. He successfully carried out a very large number of metropolitan improvements, the most notable of which are the formation and laying out of Victoria and Battersea Parks, the General Record Repository in Fetter-lane, the new west wing of Somerset House, the south wing of Buckingham Palace, and the University of London. He was hon. member of St. Luke's Academy, Rome, and of the Society of Architecture, Amsterdam. He received the annual medal of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1857, and the gold medal in 1865, and was created a Knight in 1870.

REV. R. C. L. DEAR.—The Rev. R. C. L. Dear, M.A., whose death was announced on Saturday, was a young man of no ordinary promise. He was educated under Dr. Hessey, at Merchant Taylors' School, which he left in June, 1863, carrying with him three out of four chief classical prizes of that year, besides the Gilpin prize, and many other marks of distinction. He quitted school as head monitor, and was elected a scholar of St. John's College, Oxford. At the University he carried off first class in classics at moderations at Easter, 1865, was posted as second for the Ireland Scholarship in 1867, and in Michaelmas of that year came out in the first class in classics as B.A. Within fourteen days of the appearance of the class-list he became Fellow of Merton, and in the spring of 1868 Craven Scholar. St. John's engaged him as college tutor. He had a host of private pupils, and in the spring of this year was appointed Moderator in classical honours. He was a man of great industry and deep learning, a good German scholar, and of most enlightened views as to education, which he pressed with real earnestness. He was ordained a deacon by the Bishop of Oxford at Christmas, 1870.

M. WILLIAM MATTHEWS, OF BIRMINGHAM.—The Birmingham papers report the death of Mr. William Matthews, which took place on Saturday last. The deceased gentleman took a leading part in the agitation which resulted in the passing of the Reform Bill, and which gave two members to Birmingham. He was a justice of the peace for the counties of Stafford and Worcester and for the borough of Birmingham, and was one of the earliest members of the Birmingham Town Council. He was formerly a director of the Great Western Railway, and deputy chairman of the South Wales Railway. He was also one of the most prominent members of the iron trade of South Staffordshire. Mr. Matthews was seventy-five years of age.

PAUL DE KOCK.—M. Paul de Kock, the well-known French novelist, whose death took place, in Paris, on Tuesday, Aug. 29, was buried at the Belleville Cemetery. When the funeral procession passed along the Boulevard St. Martin, where for forty years the deceased had lived, a large crowd, principally composed of artisans and tradesmen, awaited it, and at the cemetery there were many literary men and journalists. M. Paul de Kock was a Protestant, and a minister of that religion delivered an address at the grave. He eulogised the talents and the character of the deceased, and lamented that so amusing a writer should have died at a time when all France was still plunged in mourning and sorrow. Charles Paul de Kock was seventy-eight years of age at the time of his death. He had been in ill-health for some time past, the terrible events of the siege having determined an affection of the heart, which at last proved fatal. The aspect of the devastations committed by the Prussians at his country house at Romainville, where he had collected all his literary and artistic souvenirs, and where he had constructed a little theatre for the performance of vaudevilles and light dramas, gave the finishing stroke to his enfeebled constitution. He wrote a large number of amusing novels, some of which enjoyed great popularity in their day.

MR. T. BALLANTYNE.—The death is announced of Mr. Thomas Ballantyne, which occurred a few days ago at his residence in Tufnell Park, Holloway, at the age of sixty-five. He was originally a weaver at Paisley, where he worked as a boy at the loom, but subsequently devoted himself to writing for the press. He edited the *Statesman* on its first appearance some ten or twelve years ago; and he was subsequently for some years the editor and manager of the *Press* and *St. James's Chronicle*.

POLICE COURTS.

RAILWAY CARD SHARPERS.—VERDANT LAWYERS.—At Lambeth, on Monday, John Read, fifty-one, was charged on remand with conspiring with others not in custody in defrauding Mr. James Copley Moyle and Mr. John Rowland Phillips, barristers-at-law, of certain sums of money, watch, rings, and chain, to the value of £26, in a railway carriage, near Croydon. From the evidence of Mr. Moyle, it appeared that, in company with his friend Mr. Phillips, he entered a railway carriage at Charing-cross station. It was the Croydon race day. Upon the train stopping at London Bridge the prisoner and five others got into the carriage. The prisoner sat next to him, and, taking out a newspaper, appeared to be perusing it. A young man in the course of the journey put a coat across his knees, and took out of his pocket three cards and began shuffling them. The young man said, "Now, gentlemen, who will stake on the winning card?" The prisoner said, "Oh, young man, you had better put away those cards; it's too old a trick for us to be caught by." A dark man then said, "It's no use, you had

better put them away." The young man went on shuffling the cards, and at last one of the company said, "I'll bet 2s. 6d. against 5s. The stake was made and the young man lost, the "king" being turned up by the challenger. A man who sat next to Mr. Phillips then staked a sovereign and won. Then one of the men said he had got a valuable coin, and the young man offered to stake £2 against it. The man who put down the coin won. The man who sat next to the one with the cards several times turned up a card and showed to witness and his friend the young man on each occasion having his head turned away. The card so shown was always the "king," and he whispered to witness quietly, "The fellow's a scamp. I would rather anyone should win than that fellow. Why not stake something?" Witness and his friend then watched the game, and Mr. Phillips then said to the man who had advised them to stake something, "Well, I'll stake 5s.; I've seen the card." Mr. Phillips staked the 5s. and won. A young man then took off his watch and chain and asked the man with the cards if he would take that, and he answered he would stake £5 against it. The young man put down the watch and chain, and lost it. Then the man next to Mr. Phillips staked some money, and won, showing the latter the winning card, the young man with the cards having his head again turned away. Mr. Phillips said, "I think I'll put down a sovereign on it," which he did, but he turned up the wrong card and lost. The prisoner then staked £5 and won. Mr. Phillips then followed with a stake of £2 and lost, when the man next to him expressed regret at the loss, and told him he ought to have another chance. Mr. Phillips then put down another £2, turning up a card, which was not the king. Witness said he had no more money, and the prisoner said, "You have rings on your fingers, why not stake them?" The prisoner said, "Stake them by all means," and the man sitting next to Mr. Phillips pointed out a card, saying "That's it." The prisoner said, "That's the card, I saw it myself; make up your friend's losses—you can't mistake this time." Witness put down two rings, and turned up a card, which was not the winning one, as pointed out by the man. The dark man then said, "It's very extraordinary how it could have been done, but at all events we'll see this time." He then put down £3. Witness said he would stake £3 to get back the rings, and Mr. Phillips put his stick across the cards as they lay; but upon the card turning up the young man declined to give up the rings, as it was not a proper stake. The prisoner then asked if witness had any property to stake to get back the rings. Witness said he had a watch and chain, when the man with the cards said, "I will stake £20 against the lot you are wearing." One of them showed a card to Mr. Phillips as being "all right." Witness said, "Here goes everything, then." Witness had some difficulty in getting the chain off, and prisoner told him to tear it off. Witness took it off and handed it to the man with the cards. Witness turned up a card, but it was not the king, and consequently lost. The train then stopped at Woodside station, and all the men got out, and upon witness and his friend alighting they found all had disappeared. Information was given to Scotland-yard, and the prisoner was afterwards apprehended near Waterloo station. After the prisoner had been in custody a short time, the duplicates of the property had been forwarded to the prosecutors, and Mr. Hickling (Hickling and Washington) now stated that it was the wish of the prosecutors to withdraw from the charge, as the other parties had not been taken, and there was some doubt as to a conviction taking place. Mr. Chance, after some little consideration, allowed this course to be adopted, and the prisoner was discharged.

THE POLICE AND THE MAGPIE.—At Hammersmith, on Monday, Alfred Sharp, a French polisher, was brought before Mr. Dayman for discharging a gun in a public thoroughfare. Police-Constable Salter, who carried a gun and a dead magpie in his hands, said that on Sunday morning a gamekeeper in Acton gave him information, and he went into the Green-lane. He twice heard the report of a gun, and saw the prisoner in the lane shoot at a magpie, which fell at witness's feet. A number of shots also fell upon his helmet. He met the prisoner and asked him for his name and address, but he refused to give them. He also asked him to show his license, but he refused. The prisoner set up the defence that he was in a meadow. Mr. Dayman said that did not matter. The complaint was where the shots fell. If they went across a path it was a dangerous thing. The prisoner said he shot at the magpie in the air. Mr. Dayman ordered him to pay a fine of 20s. The prisoner asked to have his gun and magpie. Mr. Dayman said he could have them. The prisoner paid the money and left the court with the magpie in his hand, some amusement being occasioned by the evident reluctance of the police to give it up.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.—P. HOLLOWAY, Fenchurch-street, shipowner—C. MENETREY, Millwall, shipchandler—J. W. MUNRO, West Brompton—H. D. LOUSS, Peckham, clerk in the Civil Service—Captain W. B. BARWELL, Brighton—W. COLES, Taxley, blacksmith—T. EYRE, Calstow, innkeeper—J. FIELDING, Liverpool, general broker—T. MUNRO, Carlisle, hosier—T. POWELL, Chipping Sodbury, ironmonger—J. P. PRESTON, Warham—D. SIMMONS, Charlton Kings, builder—C. R. E. WHATMAN, Stansted—L. WILSON, Alford, solicitor.

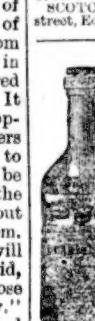
TUESDAY, SEPT. 5.

BANKRUPTS.—J. BRUCE, Fenchurch-street, shipowner—G. F. BIGNELL, Fenchurch-street—J. DANSOY, Whitechapel, upholsterer—C. MCGOUGH, Carlisle, draper—J. THORPE, Manchester, wood turner—W. WALKER, Birchfield, Handsworth, brewer—E. WHALLEY, Green, Stamford, yeoman—C. M. WILSON, White Roding Rectory, cleric in holy orders.

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